



THE TIMES Tomorrow

Livingstone's legacy
What will happen to London when the GLC disappears?
Missing children
How Britain can learn from American experience
Trading places
Jack Straw looks at the growth in foreign exchange dealing
High hopes
Setting sail for a British victory in the America's Cup

Portfolio

There were two winners of the £2,000 Times Portfolio competition yesterday. Mrs Muriel Craig of St Albans, Hertfordshire, and Mrs J. K. Bristow of Huntingdon, each receive £1,000. Portfolio list, page 22; how to play, information service, back page.

Botswana warned by Pretoria

Mr R. F. "Pik" Botha, the South African Foreign Minister, has told Botswana that South Africa reserves the right to take appropriate action to protect the lives of its citizens. Pretoria has frequently quoted that it terms as international law as justification for cross-border retaliatory raids. Border tensions, page 8

Union elections under scrutiny

Complaints by members of the Transport and General Workers' Union about the conduct of the recent controversial elections for the union executive are being investigated by the government-appointed Certification Officer for Trade Unions. Page 2

French favourite

The French Government is thought to favour a rail-only tunnel because it considers the rail system as one of its strengths. Page 6

Kasparov doubt

Gary Kasparov, the world chess champion, predicted in an interview with *Der Spiegel* that his title rematch with Anatoly Karpov would be called off by the World Chess Federation. Chess denial, page 8

Computer boost

Indeterred by the blackest year since the personal computer business began in the UK, manufacturers are about to launch new models. Page 15

Coal demand

A demand for lower coal prices was made by Mr Philip Jones, chairman of the Electricity Council, which is the biggest customer of the National Coal Board. Page 19

Officer convicted

The head of the Dorset police traffic division has been given a suspended jail sentence after admitting driving at more than three times the legal drink level. Page 3

Maze fast ends

The republican hunger strike in the Maze prison by convicted murderers Robert Thoburn, Gerard Stenson and Thomas Power has ended. Page 2

'Spy' inquiry

The inquiry into the Cyprus secrets trial was told that regulations governing the arrest and detention of servicemen were "appallingly incomprehensible". Page 2

Tough choice

Yugoslavia has chosen a hardliner. Mr Branco Mikulic, as its next Prime Minister, in a surprise shuffle intended to battle unemployment and inflation. Page 6

Glamour tie

Liverpool and Chelsea, third and fourth respectively in the first division, have been drawn to play each other in the FA Cup fourth round. Full draw, page 25

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Heseltine told by law chief: Stick to the facts

The Solicitor-General has accused Mr Michael Heseltine of a "material inaccuracy" in a letter about the Westland rescue struggle to Lloyds merchant bank.

The EEC Commissioner for Industry warned the company that it could lose European deals if it accepted the Sikorsky offer.

Sir John Cuckney, the Westland chairman, said he would not put the European offer to shareholders. If the Sikorsky package was rejected, receivership was inevitable.

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

The Solicitor General, Sir Patrick Mayhew, warned Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence, yesterday that he had a strict duty to stick to the facts in his campaign for an Anglo-European rescue of the Westland helicopter company.

That remarkable warning, contained in a highly confidential Whitehall memorandum, was leaked yesterday by senior Whitehall sources.

A Press Association report said: "The Solicitor General, Sir Patrick Mayhew, in an almost unprecedented move, this afternoon, accused Mr Michael Heseltine of a 'material inaccuracy' in a letter about the Westland helicopter deal which the Defence Secretary wrote to Lloyds Merchant Bank on Friday."

Whitehall sources opposed to Mr Heseltine then trumped their earlier lead with a partial text of Sir Patrick's letter, which allegedly complained of Mr Heseltine's threat that if Westland joined forces with United Technologies-Fiat it could jeopardize participation in European collaborative projects.

The Heseltine text, as published in Saturday's *Times*, said: "There are indications available to HMG (Her Majesty's

Government) from both the other governments and the companies concerned that a Westland link with Sikorsky-Fiat would be incompatible with participation..."

"Sir Patrick was said to have written to Mr Heseltine: 'This sentence when read with the rest of the paragraph necessarily implies that all the governments and all the companies involved in the collaborative battlefield helicopter and NH90 projects have given this indication to HMG.'

Westland chronology
Leading article 15
Kenneth Fleet 19

At that point in the leak it became unclear whether there were sentences or even paragraphs missing, but the leak went on: "The Government in such circumstances is under a duty not to give information which is incomplete or inaccurate in any material particular."

The next leaked sentence read: "And I must therefore advise you that you should write again to Mr Horne (managing director of Lloyds Merchant Bank) correcting the inaccuracies".

It was reported later that Mr

Heseltine's reaction had been robust in the extreme; that there had been complaints of legal nit-picking.

Other Whitehall sources were unclear as to whether Mr Heseltine had in fact been mistaken, and it was suggested by defence ministry sources that Sir Patrick was merely advising that the text should be rechecked.

It was said that Sir Patrick had seen the Heseltine letter in *The Times* on Saturday and he felt it necessary to be legally watertight.

The suspicion at the Ministry of Defence was that he had been "put up to it" by the Department of Trade and Industry and that the Department had then leaked the result in an attempt to sabotage Mr Heseltine's pro-European campaign.

The next move will be up to Mr Heseltine, but if he does correct his letter to Lloyds Merchant Bank then his correction - and retreat - will have to be made public.

Mr Heseltine made clear later, however, that no correction was necessary - that he had stuck to the facts.

It was said last night that all

Warning by Brussels Westland backs new Sikorsky package

By Judith Huntley

The Westland board unveiled the improved £74 million rescue package from Sikorsky and Fiat yesterday, saying that the unconditional offers of nearly totalling two million man hours over five years have been put forward as well as a reduction in shareholding by the US and Italians and an injection of more money.

The board sent the details of the improved offer to shareholders yesterday unanimously recommending them to vote for the offer on January 14.

Sir John Cuckney, Westland's chairman, said yesterday that he will not be putting to the vote the rival £72.1 million rescue package from the European consortium backed by Mr Michael Heseltine, the Secretary of State for Defence.

The shareholders will be asked to agree restructuring to allow new borrowing. Sir John said if 50 per cent did not agree, receivership was inevitable - and the only restructuring package on the table is the Sikorsky-Fiat offer.

Sir John added: "I will not let shareholders vote on both schemes. We are not in a takeover position here. We must have a capital reconstruction in place."

"There is a danger that if we had a vote on two competing offers, the company would fall between two stools. That is a very dangerous position."

It is believed that the members of the European consortium improved their offer at a meeting held last night with Sir John. He was in talks with Sir Austin Pearce, the chairman of British Aerospace, and its managing director and chief executive, Sir Raymond Lygo, and Mr James Prior, the chairman of GEC, together with Lord Weinstock, GEC's managing director.

Sir John indicated last night that he would keep the January 14 timetable. But he agreed "there is a price for everything and there must be a possibility that the Europeans will put up a better offer which I will consider."

Westland's board was keen to emphasize that it is the quality

Continued on page 2, col 5

Sudan famine appeal to Geldof

By Paul Valley

Six major aid agencies in Sudan have made an appeal to Bob Geldof, the Band Aid organizer, after claiming that their headquarters are ignoring a rapidly deteriorating situation which could lead to a repetition of last year's famine in the west of the country.

The agencies are so alarmed that, for the first time, they have drafted a joint statement. "They have sent it to me because their own head offices have all refused to issue it because it points the finger at what went wrong last year," Mr Geldof said last night, before releasing the statement on a BBC Radio 1 current affairs programme.

The statement, drawn up by Oxfam, Save the Children, Care, The League of Red Cross and other agencies, says: "The emergency is continuing. The response of the donor governments is not. Not a single new commitment of either food or money resulted from an international government donors' conference in New York."

The United Nations, which sponsored the conference, has itself run out of money for Sudan, the agencies claim.

Sudan's minimum needs have been known for nearly three months. Agency estimates in October of four million people at risk, needing 400,000 tons of food, were confirmed in

November by a UN mission which put the requirement at 517,000 tons.

"Unless donor governments provide this money now there will be no time to move grain to the famine areas before the rains halt transport, as happened last year," the statement says.

The Save the Children Fund last night informed Band Aid in a telex that Kordofan, one of two areas at risk in the west of Sudan, would this week run out of food for distribution.

Mr Geldof said that Band Aid would immediately send a two man team to Sudan to see how aid could be mobilized most quickly.

Half-point rise in interest rates feared

Financial analysts believe that the Chancellor may be forced to raise base rates by half a point, to 11.5 per cent, to protect the pound after money market rates rose yesterday.

Shares and government stocks fell in response. The Financial Times industrial ordinary share index dropped by 7.8 to 1141.8. The pound was boosted to \$1.4415 against the dollar. Later in New York it slipped to \$1.4330 because of fears of weaker oil prices.

Details, page 19

How TV chat left Jaruzelski speechless

From Roger Boyes

It was intended to be a breakthrough, an example of how a Communist leader could talk with candour directly to his citizens.

Instead, there was a breakdown. And now the heads have begun to roll. General Jaruzelski's advisors had been impressed by the new Gorbachev style: the fireside chat with President Reagan, the walkabouts. The General, it was decided, would mark his elevation to head of the Polish state by abandoning the formal and straitlaced New Year's Eve speech to the nation, and

instead have a quiet, rambling chat with two television interviewers.

Unfortunately, the speech was so incoherent that it was inaudible. A special team of security-cleared technicians, recorded the talk 36 hours in advance, forgot to clip a microphone to the General's tie and had moreover scattered the sound equipment apparently at random around the presidential ante-chambers.

The result was a deep echo, not unlike a Dracula film, and the destruction of every fourth or fifth of the General's carefully-prepared words.

When the mistake was



Sir Patrick Mayhew (left) and the embattled Mr Michael Heseltine.

Shares to make £9m for Lloyd Webber

By Clare Dobie

Mr Andrew Lloyd Webber, the composer whose hits include *Cats* and *Starlight Express*, will receive at least £8.9 million when his company, The Really Useful Group, is floated on the Stock Exchange.

Mr Lloyd Webber, who owns 70 per cent of the company, is selling 2.8 million shares. The remaining holding is valued at £13.4 million at the minimum tender price.

Mr Brian Brolly, the company's managing director, is selling 1.2 million shares worth £3.8 million and the company is issuing a further 1 million shares to raise £2 million for itself after expenses.

Mr Lloyd Webber yesterday said the flotation would "leave me much more free to concentrate on composing". He believes it will raise the profile of both the company and the industry. It will also enable the company to buy out Mr Lloyd Webber's half share in the Palace Theatre.

The stock market launch will not affect Mr Lloyd Webber's royalty income which he said was running at "well over £2 million" a year.

His former song-writing partner, Mr Tim Rice, will be a non-executive director on the board.

The Really Useful Group, whose chairman is Lord Gwennie, develops and exploits copyrights on works by Mr Lloyd Webber such as *Cats*, *Starlight Express*, *Song and Dance* and a new production, *The Phantom of the Opera*. The company also uses works by other composers, but last year *Cats* contributed 87 per cent of net income.

Profits have risen sharply from £24,000 in the 13 months to June 1981 to £2.7 million last year. The company is forecasting a further increase to not less than £4.2 million in the year to June.

The company and its advisers, J Henry Schroder Wagg, have chosen to use tender, rather than a fixed price offer for sale, because of the difficulty in pricing this type of company.

The minimum tender price is 320p a share but analysts expect the initial trading price to be 350p or higher, reflecting widespread demand from private investors.

The company will own the copyright to any works written by Mr Lloyd Webber in the next seven years. He has several projects in mind, including producing his first film.

Application lists for the shares will open on January 14 and dealings are expected to start on January 21.

Tempus, page 21

'Mole' in KGB gave 4,000 secret papers to French

From Diana Geddes, Paris

Details of what is claimed to be the most important counter-espionage operation ever conducted against the Soviet KGB by a Western power are revealed in a book to be published here on Friday, extracts from which are reproduced in this week's issue of the respected French news weekly, *Le Point*.

The existence of a spy, code-named "Farwell", working for the French at the very heart of the KGB, had been suspected for some time, but this is the first time that the scale and impact of the operation has been revealed in public.

According to Thierry Wolton, a journalist with *Le Point* and author of the forthcoming book entitled *Le KGB en France*, it was "Farwell" who was responsible for the spectacular expulsion of 47 Soviet spies from France in April 1983, for the unmasking in October 1984 of the German spy, Manfred Roisch, who had been passing arms secrets to the Russians for 17 years, and for the acquisition by the West of a list of the Soviet organizations and principal agents involved in obtaining Western technological and scientific secrets for the Russians.

In all, "Farwell" passed around 4,000 top secret documents to the Direction de la Surveillance du Territoire (DST), the French counter-espionage service, between the spring of 1981 and November

"Farwell" virtually fell into the French counter-espionage service's lap when, in the spring of 1981, a Frenchman walked into the secret offices in Paris carrying two letters which a "Soviet friend high up in the Soviet civil service" had given him in Moscow. In the letters, the Russian claimed that he has served in the Soviet Embassy in

Continued on back page, col 1

Acland is appointed US envoy

By Nicholas Ashford

Sir Antony Acland, aged 55, Permanent Under-Secretary at the Foreign Office for the past four years, has been appointed as the new British ambassador to Washington, it was announced yesterday.

He will succeed Sir Oliver Wright, aged 64, who retired from the Diplomatic Service in 1981 only to be summoned back a year later by Mrs Margaret Thatcher to become Britain's most important representative abroad. The change-over will take place this summer.

The new permanent head of the Foreign Office will be Sir Patrick Wright, aged 55, at present ambassador to Saudi Arabia.

Sir Antony's appointment means that for the first time in nearly 10 years Britain's senior diplomatic post has been given to a serving career diplomat.

Top diplomat, page 5

Kremlin attacks US policy on Libya

From Christopher Walker

The Kremlin publicly entered the Libya crisis yesterday with a statement attacking the US for its behaviour in the wake of the Rome and Vienna airport terrorist outrages and accusing it of seeking to punish Libya in order to demonstrate its own military might.

The tense situation emerged as a threat to the new climate of Soviet-American harmony.

At a special briefing yesterday Mr Vladimir Lomtchik, the chief Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman, claimed that Libya and other regional flashpoints, including Syria and Nicaragua, were being exploited by right-wingers in Washington who were trying to sabotage the recent improvement of relations with Moscow.

Mr Lomtchik said Washington was making no attempt to solve the Libya crisis peacefully. On the contrary, it was practising a policy of "state terrorism" in breach of international charters by issuing threats against Libya and its leader, Colonel Gaddafi.

Diplomatic observers noted that Mr Lomtchik was the first Soviet spokesman to speak on the issue. Although pressed hard by Western correspondents, he refused to give any Soviet military commitment to come to the Libyan leader's aid if a US attack against him materialized.

The refusal of the Kremlin official to be drawn on the question was seen as reflecting some of the difficulties which have entered Soviet-Libyan relations since Gaddafi's visit to Moscow in October, and apparent problems in making progress towards the signing of a friendship treaty with the Soviet Union.

Mr Lomtchik appeared to try to draw a distinction between the attitude of President Reagan and hardline members of his Administration, whom he accused of being "angered and irritated" at the improved atmosphere between Washington and Moscow.

He alleged that the hardliners (whom he did not identify) were "pouring petrol" on old regional disputes, notably in the Middle East, Central America and southern Africa, in their attempt to pursue a policy of "new globalism".

"It is symptomatic that outbursts of regional preoccupation in Washington always coincide with those periods when opportunities appear in relations between the USSR and the USA to reach agreements on measures concerning the central issue of lessening the war threat."

Much of the anti-American rhetoric during the 60-minute briefing had been familiar, almost daily fare before last year's superpower meeting in Geneva, but had been much less frequently heard here since.

Damascus puzzle, page 6

HARRODS SALE

Starts Tomorrow Wednesday 8th January 9am to 7pm

Special Selections for Men

Items	Orig. Price	Sale Price
Suits Examples of single-breasted two-piece, all wool		
d'Avenza	£420	£240
Oscar Jacobson	£195	£135
Chester	£175	£125
d'Urban	£215	£145
Givenclo	£205	£145
Overcoats Examples:		
Double-breasted, pure wool	£155	£110
Cashmere, Half Price	£320	£160
Jackets Examples:		
Silk sports, all wool	£135	£84
Berwin tweed, all wool	£110	£73
Trousers Example:		
Jauchant, all wool	£60	£38
Shirt Examples:		
Hillich & Kay, pure cotton	£37.95	£25.50
Three for £69		
£135		£69
Three for £175		
£22.95		£11
Three for £29		
£34		£24
Three for £66		
Pyjamas Example:		
Derek Rose pure cotton	£26.50	£16.50
Three for £46.50		

Mens Shop, Ground Floor. Personal shoppers only. All reductions are from Harrods' previous prices.

Sale Opening Hours: Wednesday 8th January 9am to 7pm. Thursday 9th January to Saturday 18th January 9am to 6pm. Monday 20th January to Friday 21st January 9am to 5pm. Wednesday 9am to 7pm. Saturdays 9am to 6pm.

Harrods
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Union watchdog investigates complaints about TGWU poll

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

The Government-appointed Certification Officer for Trade Unions is investigating complaints from members of the Transport and General Workers' Union about the conduct of recent elections for the union executive.

Elections to the union's governing body were surrounded with controversy because some of the voting may not have complied with the employment legislation. Now the certification officer has written to Mr Ron Todd, TGWU general secretary, requesting his views about complaints from two of the union's regions.

It is understood that the complaints, from region one, covering London and the Home Counties, and region five, in the Midlands, relate to allegations that union members were not given the opportunity to vote.

Voting was held last month by secret ballot at workplace and branch meetings and 25 members of the executive of 38 were elected. The union decided at a special conference to change its rules for the election of the other 14 seats so that they complied with the labour laws.

In the elections for the 25 territorial representatives, the left suffered at least two losses, including the defeat of Mr Walter Greenfield, a hard-left dockworker who is the present chairman of the union. In London, the three left candidates were successful, but the London regional secretary has

Aberfan QC among three new Law Lords

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Lord Justice Ackner, the Court of Appeal judge who gained notoriety as a QC in the sixties when he fiercely criticized the National Coal Board for the Aberfan tip slide disaster, has been appointed a Law Lord.

His appointment was one of three announced by Downing Street yesterday to fill vacancies among the nine Lords of Appeal in Ordinary, as the Law Lords are known officially. Lord Justice Goff and Lord Justice Oliver are the other two appointments.

The vacancies are created by the retirement of Lord Scarman, the liberal Law Lord who has made his name as a champion of civil rights and in particular of a Bill of rights, of Lord Roskill, whose report on fraud trials is due to be published on Friday, and by the death last year of Lord Diplock.

Lord Justice Ackner, aged 65, who lists as his interests in *Who's Who* "swimming, sailing, gardening, theatre", was appointed a Lord Justice of Appeal in 1980. From 1980 to 1982 he was president of the Inns of Court and the Bar. He was appointed a High Court judge in the Queen's Bench division in 1971.

As a QC he made his reputation in libel cases, defending the *International Herald Tribune* against an action being brought by the Prime Minister, Mr Harold Wilson. He also represented the parents and residents at the Aberfan tribunal. He was known for avoiding pomposity and waffle, and for his mastery of the cutting aside.

Lord Justice Goff, aged 60, was appointed a judge in the Court of Appeal in 1982. He is co-author of *The Law of Restitution*. Lord Justice Oliver, 64, a Court of Appeal judge since 1980, has made his reputation in the Chancery Division, where he sat from 1974 to 1980. From 1976 to 1980 he was a member of the Restrictive Practices Code and chaired a recent review body on the Chancery Division practice and procedures. His hobbies are gardening and music.

To replace the three judges on the Court of Appeal, Downing Street announced the promotion of three High Court judges: Mr Justice Stocker, Mr Justice Woolf and Mr Justice Nicholls.



Firemen carrying one of the injured from the scene of the underground explosion in a sewer tunnel under construction on the outskirts of Glasgow.

Two killed in sewer explosion

From Ronald Faux, Glasgow

Two men died and nine others were taken to hospital after gas exploded in a sewer under construction on the south side of Glasgow yesterday.

The accident occurred in a 110ft deep tunnel which had been closed for two weeks for the Christmas and New Year holidays.

The Health and Safety Executive has begun an investigation into the explosion, which is believed to have been caused by a build-up of natural methane gas in the 5ft high tunnel.

The dead men were named by the police as Mr Charles Ward, also known as Mr Hugh Rogers, aged 48, of Ayr, Ayrshire, and Mr Joseph Moore, aged 41, of Harley Road, Greenford, west London.

One workman was transferred to the serious burns unit at the Royal Infirmary, Glasgow, where his condition last night was said to be critical. He is Mr Cathal Roarty, aged 34, of Lobas Place, Toryglen, Glasgow.

A hospital spokesman said the injured workmen were being treated for gas inhalation, burns and shock. They included Mr James Sweeney, aged 45, and his son, also

James, aged 18, both of Aikenhead Road, Glasgow.

The other victims were Mr Thomas Finn, aged 35, of Boerlelea Avenue, Burnage, Manchester, and Mr Edward McGarvey, aged 31, of Land-side Road, Crosshill, Glasgow. Four firemen were also taken for a precautionary check suffering from exhaustion.

Two men were more than 100ft along the horizontal tunnel when the explosion occurred. Five were in the vertical entrance shaft. Two men nearest the surface were blown clear.

The sewer, near Deacon's Bank golf club, is part of a £1 million replacement system for the Newton Mearns district of Glasgow. The workmen entered the sewer at 8am to begin work after the holidays.

It is thought that a build up of the odourless gas was ignited either by a spark from a spade or an electric switch.

Mr Finn, who suffered bruising, was working his first day on the site. He said: "We heard a bang and went back there. About 80 to 100 feet inside the tunnel I found the general foreman. He was slumped down, face between the rails.

"I turned him over and tried to give him the kiss-of-life three times. Then I found he was breathing and I gave him the kiss-of-life again. Then I remember, and the next thing I remember, is waking up in hospital."

Rules for detention of servicemen 'baffling', QC says

By Gregory Neale

The Armed Forces regulations governing the arrest and detention of servicemen were "appallingly incomprehensible", and should be redrafted, the inquiry into the investigations that led to the Cyprus secrets trial was told yesterday.

Mr Robin Grey, QC, counsel for the interrogators who questioned the men later acquitted of espionage charges, told the inquiry in London that the regulations were badly drafted.

"It is an appalling state of affairs if officers concerned with vital matters of national security, possibly involving lives, do not know what their powers are, nor the consequences of exceeding those powers", Mr Grey said.

The inquiry has heard already that senior officers in Cyprus were at odds at times over the detention, initially without charge and later on holding charges, of the servicemen involved in the secrets case.

Eight servicemen were acquitted of charges under the Official Secrets Act at the Central Criminal Court last October, after Britain's longest and most expensive espionage trial. In evidence the men complained that they had been intimidated by harsh interrogation into making false confessions.

Mr Grey told the inquiry that sections of the Armed Forces regulations should be redrafted in the light of the case. "Even lawyers have found it difficult to know whether or not Queen's Regulations were followed reasonably", he said.

Mr Grey said there were inconsistencies of meaning between the Queen's Regulations for the Royal Air Force and the Air Force Act, Queen's Regulation 1034, concerning the detention of servicemen, was "appallingly worded", Mr Grey said.

Mr Grey, who was making his final submission to the inquiry, said that the interrogators had faced an almost impossible "balancing act" trying to reconcile their concern to limit apparent damage to national security with the need not to jeopardize possible criminal proceedings.

"I submit that the offence (committing the interrogators) behaved in keeping with the highest traditions of the Armed Forces", he said. "In the face of insurmountable difficulties, they acted with skill, efficiency, humanity and even ingenuity."

If there had been any breaches of regulations, these had been committed in good faith, Mr Grey said.

Earlier, Mr Kenneth Zucker, representing the guards responsible for keeping the men in detention, said that there had been periods when the interrogators, members of the RAF Provost and Security Services branch, and in their zeal to investigate suspected threats to national security, not told military legal advisers that sufficient evidence had been obtained to justify charging at least one of the servicemen under suspicion. A charge would have prevented further questioning, he said.

"That may have been justified in terms of national security, but not in law", he said.

The inquiry, which is being chaired by Mr David Calcutt, QC, continues today.

Terror declines, but RUC deaths rise

From Richard Ford, Belfast

Terrorism in Northern Ireland continued to decline last year in spite of the Royal Ulster Constabulary suffering its worst year for deaths since 1976.

Terrorist shootings and explosions decreased by 30 per cent and the number of people killed in the troubles fell by 10 to 54, with the Provisional IRA's campaign increasingly being concentrated in border areas, according to the RUC.

The Provisionals were responsible for the deaths of all 29 members of the security forces killed last year, and their campaign in the province's capital was again extremely limited, indicating success for the RUC's strategy of tight security in the main towns and cities.

The Provisionals killed one soldier in the Divis Flats, a civilian in a city centre car park, two alleged Roman Catholic informers and another Roman Catholic youth who died after a punishment shooting in west Belfast.

The Irish National Liberation Army, badly affected by informers, was responsible for the

TERRORIST INCIDENTS		
	1984	1985
Deaths	64	54
Injuries	866	845
Explosions	193	130
Attacks on RUC stations	68	43
Numbers charged with terrorist offences	526	485

Boom in car sales sets new records

By Clifford Webb, Motoring Correspondent

Sales of new cars during the closing days of 1985 beat all previous records for December and made 1985 the best year ever.

But it led to accusations last night that Ford, the market leader, had "turned the market upside down" by registering thousands of unsold cars to boost its year-end market share.

Figures released by the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders showed that Ford accounted for more than 38 per cent of the 78,738 cars sold in December. That compares with 27.8 per cent for the year as a whole.

It had four of the five best-selling models, with Escort and Orion taking a remarkable 21.5 per cent between them. Escort alone took 15.8 per cent compared with only 6.8 per cent for the Cavalier, its nearest rival.

Total sales in 1985 of 1.8 million were 5 per cent up on 1984, beating the previous record of just under 1.8 million in 1983.

Last night Ford denied reports that it had registered 7,000 company-owned cars in December.

He admitted that the jump from less than 38 per cent in a single month was "exceptional", but suggested that it was due largely to factory incentive payments to dealers of up to £350 each on Escorts and Orions.

For the second month running Austin Rover could manage only 14 per cent, compared with 17.7 per cent for the year as a whole. But in a bigger annual market it sold 324,574 some 16,000 more than in 1984. Ford's 1985 sales fell by 1,300 to 485,620, 26.7 per cent compared with 27.8 per cent in 1984.

General Motors (Vauxhall and Opel) made the biggest gain, up 21,000 to 303,460 sales, lifting its share from 16.2 per cent to 16.6 per cent.

NCB denies rise to some pitmen

By Our Labour Correspondent

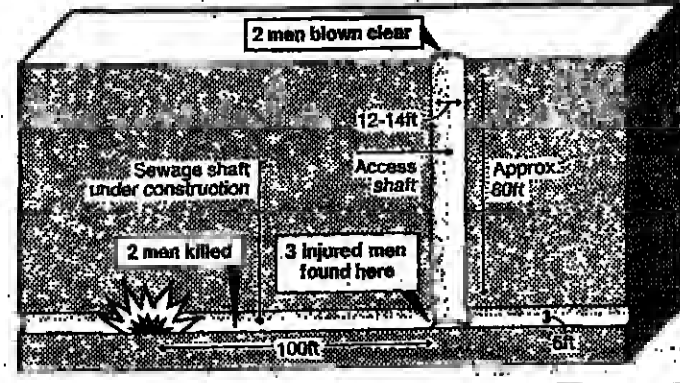
Mr Ian MacGregor, chairman of the National Coal Board, told the Union of Democratic Mineworkers yesterday that he would not sanction payment of an agreed pay increase to several hundred members of the union.

He told a meeting with UDM officials in Nottinghamshire that paying the 6 per cent increase to members in pits where the National Union of Mineworkers was in the majority could be expected to

produce legal action by the NUM.

Such action could be brought on the basis that NUM members were being paid less for doing the same work in the same pits as UDM members.

The increase of 5.9 per cent on basic rates in addition to a 30p-a-week attendance bonus is being paid to UDM members in Nottinghamshire, south Derbyshire and to the Durham-based Colliery Trades and Allied Workers' Association.



Westland crisis

See-saw battle favours Sikorsky bid

By Our Political Correspondent

Although the Westland crisis flared last month, Sir John Cuckney, an expert in company revivals, was brought in last June.

The fact that he had to wait until the end of September before he was able to get a firm Sikorsky bid for a minority stake in his company explains some of his apparent impatience with the belated offer from the European consortium.

But once Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Defence, and British industrialists had seen the threat from United Technologies-Fiat, the Sikorsky team, the political and industrial battle began with a vengeance. It began on December 5: When Mr Heseltine launched his internal Whitehall bid for the Europeans to be given a chance to compete.

6: Another ministerial meeting sustains Mr Heseltine's bid for a European option.

9: Cabinet committee on economic affairs again endorses Heseltine's view, although Mr Leon Brittan, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, also wins support for view that ministers should not be seen to be partisan.

11: Westland share dealing suspended.

12: By which time United Technologies has lined up with

	HOW THE TWO OFFERS COMPARE	
	UTC/Fiat	Consortium
	£m	£m
Financial		
New ordinary share capital subscribed by existing shareholders	14.2	13.0
New ordinary share capital subscribed by potential partners	23.1	23.1
New preference share capital to be subscribed or purchased by potential partners	74.0	73.1
Total reconstruction package	111.3	109.2
UTC and Fiat have agreed to purchase 5 million A Preference Shares from the banks at par		
Other features		
Subscription price of rights issue shares	60p	55p
Subscription price per ordinary share by potential partners	85p	65p
Coupon on preference share capital - non convertible	8%	10%
convertible	7.5%	7.5%
Number of warrants to be issued to all existing shareholders		
Number of warrants to be issued to existing shareholders who take up their rights	up to 23.7m	up to 23.7m
Work commitment		
Guaranteed man-hours over 5 years, 7 over 8 years	2.0m	1.8m
Fully diluted shareholdings*		
Existing shareholders	84%	83%
Potential partners	11%	17%
The banks	5%	0%

*Following full conversion and exercise of warrants

Two unions are exempted from Murdoch deadline

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

News International has exempted the electricians and the National Union of Journalists from a Christmas deadline for an agreement over *The London Post* to be printed at Wapping, east London.

An official of the company which owns *The Times*, *The Sunday Times*, *The Sun* and *News of the World*, said yesterday that the management would be prepared to reopen talks with the NUJ and the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunications and Plumbing Union (EETPU), but that meetings had yet to be arranged.

Negotiations with the other printing unions, Sogat '82, the National Graphical Association and the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, were at an end, however.

The move will provide a severe test for the fragile front of solidarity presented by the printing unions which until now has included the NUJ. The electricians' union has already broken ranks by indicating its readiness to sign a legally binding no-strike deal with News International.

Talks with all five unions ended before Christmas without agreement, but the EETPU says its part in the negotiations were conducted only at branch level. The group had previously implied that it might be prepared to meet national

EETPU officials after the deadline.

The announcement comes before a joint mandatory chapel (office branch) meeting of NUJ members today at *The Times* and *The Sunday Times* to be addressed by Mr Harry Conroy, the union's general secretary. Mr Conroy has been prominent in opposing the stringent demands made by News International for the new paper, due to be printed at Wapping.

Mr Norman Willis, general secretary of the TUC, issued "advice" last month to all unions concerned not to embark upon a deal with the company without the approval of the other unions. At the time, the warning was aimed primarily at the electricians who are also near to signing an exclusive no-strike deal with Mr Eddy Shar for his newspaper, which is due to be launched in the spring.

Further attempts at forming a united front among the unions will be made at a meeting of the TUC's Printing Industries Committee on Friday.

The Times overseas selling prices: Australia \$25.00; Canada \$25.00; Europe \$25.00; India \$25.00; Japan \$25.00; New Zealand \$25.00; Singapore \$25.00; South Africa \$25.00; USA \$25.00; West Indies \$25.00.

European option given backing from Brussels

Commission was "dusting off the files" on potential European technology projects which had failed in the past, but which were viable in today's changed situation. These included the "post-jet" generation of aircraft which were planned for the turn of the century but could be built only in Europe through joint efforts.

Herr Narjes said that he was speaking out in spite of intervention would be helpful to the European cause and Mr Heseltine. He had at no time been in contact with Mr Heseltine or other British ministers.

He was stepping in because Westland shareholders would in future blame the Commission if it fell silent and failed to give the full facts.

EEC officials said that the two British Commissioners, Lord Cockfield and Mr Stanley Clinton Davies, had been consulted before Herr Narjes spoke.

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Union leader wants workers to have say

The leader of the largest union at Westland last night wrote to Sir John Cuckney asking him to hold a referendum of all 7,000 employees to establish their views in the wrangle over the future of the helicopter group.

Mr Ron Todd, general secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union, said he believed that the workers' views were more important than the Cabinet's or the shareholders.

The company's employees stood to lose everything in the dispute and would be given no say in the company's future, he stated.

Corrections

Contrary to our report (December 28) on television licence fees, the Consolidated Fund is equal only to the net fees collected.

In yesterday's news, in the notation Not-Not in moves 5 and 13 should read 0-0 in each case; in Pleasant-Bellon, move 5 should read N-P.

Philosophy

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Suspended jail sentence for police traffic chief who was 3 times over limit

The head of the Dorset police's traffic division was sentenced yesterday to 28 days in jail, suspended for two years, after admitting driving when his breath showed that he was more than three times over the legal drink limit.

Chief Superintendent Bert Sheldon, aged 44, who had been short-listed for jobs as assistant and deputy chief constable with other forces, was also disqualified for two years. He faces dismissal from the police.

Mr Philip Jacobs, for the defence, said Sheldon had committed the offence on the first anniversary of his wife's leaving him while he was on a six-month course to prepare officers for the highest ranks.

"It was a very considerable blow to him. Since that time he has been a very unhappy and lonely man," Mr Jacobs said. Sheldon had gone drinking when he was unable to face another lonely night at home.

Sheldon, whom Mr Jacobs said had an exceptional record and had obtained an honours degree in law, joined the police in 1960.

Mr Michael Davies, for the prosecution, said Sheldon had been arrested on August 25 last year after driving his car to Fenside Road, Poole, about 300 yards from the police station.

Four people in a car saw Sheldon's vehicle coming towards them on the wrong side of the road. Sheldon, who was off duty and in plain clothes, swerved back to his side of the road and hit a belisha beacon.

He then attempted to drive away, although his vehicle was badly damaged and stuck on the beacon. It was clear that he had been drinking and a woman constable arrested him after giving him a breath test.

At the police station later he gave two specimens of breath with readings of 132 and 135, the legal limit is 35.

Sheldon, of Sandbanks Road, Parkstone, admitted drink-driving. The chairman of the bench

at Poole Magistrates' Court, Miss Jeanne Bigood, told him: "Fortunately you hit the beacon and not someone on the crossing. Whatever the consequences, the only sentence appropriate is a custodial one."

Mr Jacobs had told the magistrates that Sheldon would have to face disciplinary proceedings.

If a prison sentence was imposed it would be impossible for the chief constable to retain his services. Sheldon would lose his £24,000-a-year job and his index-linked pension, estimated to be worth between £300,000 and £400,000 over 25 years.

Mr Jacobs said Sheldon felt considerable shame at what he had done and was suffering from acute anxiety and depression.

As head of the traffic division Sheldon spearheaded Dorset's drink-driving campaign at Christmas 1984, warning motorists: "If you drink, don't drive."



Chief Supt Bert Sheldon, who faces dismissal.

A police constable faces prosecution after failing a breath test while returning from a day trip to France. The officer, stationed at Brighton, had been driving home a group of policemen. Prosecution will depend on the result of a blood test.

Paul McKenzie, aged 25, a drink-drive motorist who passed a red traffic light and killed another driver was jailed for a year and banned from driving for four years by the Central Criminal Court yesterday.

Judge Michael Coombe said that McKenzie, an electronics engineer, of Pinner, Middlesex, had "an appalling motoring record with six convictions for having no insurance and one for careless driving. It seems that you couldn't care less about others on the road."

McKenzie was convicted of causing the death by reckless driving of Julian Roberts, aged 24, a groom, of Petersfield, Hampshire.

Denis Lynch, aged 19, a drink-drive offender who killed a close school friend, was given a total of three years' youth custody yesterday and banned from driving for five years by Wood Green Crown Court, north London.

Lynch, a labourer from Wood Green, was driving six friends home from a Kentish Town dance hall when the car careered into a launderette. His friend, the front seat passenger, Gerry Sexton, aged 18, died after two months in a coma.

Lynch pleaded guilty to causing death by reckless driving on August 12, driving with excess alcohol and with no insurance or driving licence, and driving the car knowing it to have been taken without consent.

Letters, page 15



Prince Andrew defying the cold without a jacket to inspect the sail training ship Lord Nelson being built in Essex, and shown fully-rigged in the model.

Prince shown work on £2m sail training ship

Prince Andrew spent 90 minutes yesterday inspecting work on the sail training ship Lord Nelson, being built at Wivenhoe, Essex. His inspection of the three-masted barge, commissioned by the Jubilee Sailing Trust, was made as patron of the trust.

The ship is designed specifically with handicapped people in mind, and has facilities to enable the handicapped to take a full part as crew of the 400-ton vessel.

During his visit Prince Andrew visited the workshop of the James Cook shipyard and spent 20 minutes on board the Lord Nelson.

The £2 million cost of the ship is being funded entirely from voluntary contributions and so far the total has reached £1.6 million.

It is planned to commission the Lord Nelson in the spring, with a naming ceremony at Southampton.

The vessel will carry a crew of 40 on each voyage, half of whom will be physically handicapped. Voyages will cost about £300 for 10 days, and will take place each year from April to November.

Deadline for injury claims on birth shield

Women injured by an American birth control coil were given a deadline yesterday for filing claims for compensation.

In a worldwide announcement, the maker of the Dalkon Shield, A H Robins, said: "A US judge has established a date after which no further claims of injury may be filed as the result of use of the Dalkon Shield. That date is April 30."

The shield was used by more than 3.5 million women in 80 countries in the early 1970s before being withdrawn because of medical complications.

An unknown number are still believed to be wearing the interuterine device (IUD), although it has been described by one American as "a deadly depth charge in their wombs, ready to explode at any time."

The device was discovered to be potentially dangerous because of its unusual tailoring which invited bacterial infection into the wearer's uterus.

More than 13,000 women in the United States are reported to have been rendered infertile and at least 21 have died. Thousands more are thought to have had miscarriages.

A H Robins filed for bankruptcy last August under the weight of compensation claims. Settlements of about £270 million have been reached.

Dr Stewart Templeton, European medical director of the company, said about 90,000 women had used Dalkon Shields in Britain.

He said that more claims had been brought against A H Robins than other companies because the Dalkon Shield had been used by more women. He also blamed the readiness of people in the United States to go to court for damages.

Dr Templeton added that to make a claim by the April 30 deadline claimants "must send their names and complete addresses, plus a simple statement that they wish to make a claim, to Dalkon Shield, PO Box 444, Richmond, Virginia 23203, USA."

Angry reaction to curbs on smoking

By Rupert Morris

Plans to restrict smoking in public places, and ban it in cars, brought angry reaction yesterday.

The latest proposal from Mr George Foulkes, the Labour MP whose anti-smoking private member's Bill is to receive its second reading next month, is that smoking should be banned in motor vehicles, as it is in Norway.

Mr Foulkes referred yesterday to the dangers of lighting a cigarette in a moving car, as well as the sleep-inducing effect of a smoky atmosphere. He admitted his evidence was "anecdotal" and "subjective", but said he believed a smoking ban on the roads would save lives.

His proposal was vigorously rejected by the Automobile Association, which said: "We do not believe it would make any contribution to road safety. Our figures show that a tiny proportion of drivers involved in motorway accidents were

smoking at the time, and in those cases there is no evidence that smoking was a contributory factor."

But even Mr Foulkes, whose proposal was described by Mr Anthony Beaumont-Dark, Conservative MP for Selby, as "a stunning interference in people's lives", did not wish to go as far as Dr Partha Surendra, head of Rsmi Electronics at Stanley, Co Durham.

Dr Surendra has been paying the eight smokers among his 40-strong workforce £2 less per week than his other employees. He said yesterday that he would employ only non-smokers in future.

Smokers already working for Rsmi Electronics have to leave the factory floor to smoke in a special area.

Mr Clive Turner, Director of Public Affairs for the Tobacco Advisory Council, suggested yesterday that employers such as Dr Surendra and Cambridge University Press, who require staff to clock off for a smoke, were irresponsible.

Crime falls after pub law change

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

A drop in alcohol-related crimes in Scotland, after the introduction of more flexible public house opening hours, could be good news for similar changes in England and Wales, medical researchers have suggested.

But the Scottish Council on Alcoholism says that more liberal licensing laws south of the border are more likely to lead to increased drinking.

The British Medical Journal, reports that trends in alcohol-linked death and disease in Scotland have not changed for the worse since extra hours and all-day licenses were permitted in the late 1970s.

Dr Martin Plant and Mr John Duffy, from Edinburgh University's department of psychiatry, say that officially recorded rates for drunkenness have declined more in Scotland than they have in England and Wales.

They add: "This evidence suggests that, in relation to health, the new Scottish licensing arrangements may be viewed neither as a cause of harm, nor as a source of benefit. They have, in effect, been neutral."

However, the Scottish Council on Alcoholism takes a very different view in its annual report for 1984-85 which finds that more women have alcohol-related problems, and people involved in drink-related offences are on average aged about 40, 10 years younger than a decade ago.

US banker 'killed by jealous man'

A penniless man wandering the streets of London's West End stabbed a wealthy American banker to death because he was jealous, a jury at the Central Criminal Court was told yesterday.

Jubril Adejumo, from Nigeria, was alleged to have told detectives that he plucked a breadknife into Mr John Sterling's stomach because he was dressed well and "looked as if he went to all the posh places".

Mr Julian Bevan, for the prosecution, said that the two men were total strangers and fate brought them together in Albermarle Street, Piccadilly, on March 28 last year. Mr Adejumo, aged 25, had been in the country for only five months and could not afford his rent for lodging house accom-

Domingo pulls out of opera

By David Hewson Arts Correspondent

The Royal Opera House's ill-fated engagement of Placido Domingo, the Italian tenor, was abruptly halted yesterday when the singer cancelled his performance in *Simon Boccanegra* at Covent Garden hours before rehearsals were due to begin.

The singer has been ordered by his doctors to undergo an immediate operation for a double hernia, news of which was broken to Covent Garden shortly before the tenor was due to arrive from Barcelona.

He is to be replaced by Gabriele Adorno, who will fly to London from Rome tomorrow and go straight into rehearsals.

Placido Domingo had been booked to appear in a new version of *Otello* at Covent Garden, but the production was postponed after the Mexican earthquake. The singer, who was in Mexico when the disaster occurred, decided to raise funds for relief work and could not spare the time for rehearsals for the new production.

The revival of *Simon Boccanegra* was planned in tandem with other members of the *Otello* cast, including Renato Bruson, Dame Kiri Te Kanawa, and Robert Lloyd.

The production will still open on January 14 for five nights. A Covent Garden spokesman said that tickets would remain at the same price as Placido Domingo's non-appearance was no reason to offer refunds.

The operation is likely to keep the singer out of action for several months.

MPs urged to keep laws on seat belts

By Clifford Webb

The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (ROSPA) warned MPs yesterday that opponents of compulsory seat belt wearing could block permanent legislation on the matter unless MPs turned up in strength for a debate next Monday.

"Too many MPs could take the result of the vote for granted and their complacency could hand the result to the anti-seat belt lobby on a plate," the society said.

Compulsory wearing was introduced as a two-year experiment, which expires at the end of this month.

ROSPA is also concerned that many MPs may have been convinced by recent publicity given to the so-called "risk compensation" argument which alleges that drivers wearing belts take more risks, causing injuries to other road users.

Tennis coach 'tricked into Lloyd contract'

Mr Tom Morgan, a professional tennis coach dismissed for refusing to clean up at the tennis club owned by the former England star, David Lloyd, claimed yesterday that he was tricked into signing a contract with Slazenger.

Mr Morgan, aged 25, of Shepherd's Bush, north-west London, who claims unfair dismissal with another colleague, told a preliminary industrial hearing that after starting at the David Lloyd and Slazenger Racket Club in Hounslow in April 1983 he was ordered to keep up the Slazenger image.

"I was tricked into signing a contract with Slazenger," he said.

Mr Donald Watt, head professional at the club in Surrey told the tribunal that Mr Morgan's claim was untrue.

The hearing was adjourned until January 14.

Road repairs will be tidier

Public services that dig holes in the road were told yesterday to achieve higher standards of repair. Legislation is expected later this year.

Mrs Sylvia Chalker, Minister of State at the Department of Transport, told representatives of local authorities and public utilities at a meeting in London that the Government would make no general funds available for such repairs. However, it would consider compensation in specific cases.

Hospital deaths inquiry

By Our Social Services Correspondent

Specialists have been called in to Cashes Green Hospital, near Stroud, Gloucestershire, after six patients died over the weekend and six more geriatric patients and 16 staff fell ill.

Mr Keith Hales, general manager at Stroud Hospital, said only three of the deaths, all among patients aged over 85, now appeared to be due to the infection. Admissions to the 65-bed geriatric hospital have been halted.

Mr Hales said legionnaires disease had been ruled out and the illness did not appear to be influenza. Dr Gareth Leyshon said: "It appears to be a fairly mild viral illness, but the very elderly are particularly vulnerable to such infections."

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30-34	1,130	1,130	1,130	2,128	2,128
35-39	1,123	1,127	1,401	4,671	2,123
40-44	2,111	1,121	1,393	4,625	2,111
45-49	2,089	1,109	1,379	4,577	2,089
50-54	2,061	1,094	1,363	4,515	2,061
55-59	2,034	1,080	1,348	4,456	1,912
60-64	2,012	1,068	1,335	4,406	1,767
65-69	1,973	1,049	1,304	4,328	1,622
70-79	1,975	1,049	1,304	4,328	1,166

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Present Age	Guaranteed Sum Assured	Annual Bonus	Capital Growth at 6%	Total Projected Maturity Value*	Immediate Life Cover
18-28	£5,492	£2,916	£3,625	£12,033	£5,492
30-34	5,499	2,915	3,623	12,027	5,499
35-39	5,476	2,908	3,614	11,998	5,476
40-44	5,445	2,893	3,602	11,959	5,445
45-49	5,388	2,861	3,559	11,830	5,388
50-54	5,319	2,824	3,511	11,694	5,319
55-59	5,250	2,788	3,462	11,553	5,250
60-64	5,198	2,760	3,431	11,399	4,915
65-69	5,107	2,712	3,371	11,190	3,678
70-79	5,107	2,712	3,371	11,190	3,014

*These projected values assume that our current rates of bonus are maintained. Bonuses depend upon future profits, therefore bonus rates cannot be guaranteed. Currently assumed bonuses are 4.25% of the Guaranteed Sum Assured and 7.5% of existing bonuses. Our current Capital Growth rate is 6.6% of the Guaranteed Sum Assured.

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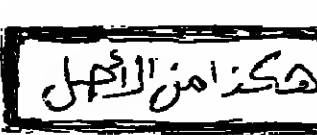
Age _____ Date of Birth _____ / month / year Name of Broker/Agent, if any _____

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3. Answer "YES" or "NO" to each question below:
 If you are under 80 and can truthfully say "NO" to the 4 questions, you are guaranteed to be accepted with no further questions or medical examination. If you answer "YES" to any question, please attach details. You may still be accepted.
 (a) Have you any reasons to believe you are not in good health? YES NO
 (b) Are you receiving, or have you received within the last twelve months, any medical treatment? YES NO
 (c) Do you participate in any hazardous sports or activities (such as private aviation or deep-sea diving)? YES NO
 (d) Has a proposal on your life been declined, postponed, or accepted on special terms by any life insurance company? YES NO

SUN ALLIANCE INSURANCE GROUP

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Westland Shareholders: UTC and Fiat have improved their proposals and your Board strongly recommends you to accept them.

WESTLAND plc

(Registered in England No. 302632)

Directors:
Sir John Cuckooey
Sir John Traverser, K.C.B.
H. P. Stewart
The Rt. Hon. Lord Pannikar, K.C.M.G.
W. C. Miller, O.B.E.
Sir Malcolm Thomas
C. D. Verall

Registered Office:
Westland Works
Weymouth
Somerset BA20 1TP

6th January 1986

To the shareholders and, for information only, to the holders of the Company's debenture stocks and participants in the Company's share option schemes.

A LETTER FROM YOUR CHAIRMAN

Dear Shareholders,

I am writing to you again about Westland's future. In view of the extensive media coverage and the confusing, and in some cases contradictory, statements made, I wish to explain why your Board has decided, unanimously and strongly, to recommend the improved proposals from UTC and Fiat. These are set out in this circular, which also contains the Board's appraisal and clear recommendations.

The key issues to be considered are:

- *UTC and Fiat are strong and profitable private sector companies. UTC's Sikorsky division is the world's leading helicopter manufacturer. They will make excellent partners for Westland. We are not in favour of linking with five separate parties which make up the Consortium, some members of which are competitors and state-owned, and therefore subject to political pressure.
- *The work offered by UTC and Fiat is more broadly based and will make Westland a more viable company. It will greatly benefit Westland's non-helicopter, as well as its helicopter, activities. Westland is not just a helicopter company.
- *This is not an American takeover. The Prime Minister has confirmed that the Government will continue to regard Westland as British. UTC and Fiat are both based in NATO countries and, as minority shareholders, will not alter Westland's status as an independent British company.
- *The Directors' duty is to act in the best interests of shareholders and employees. The Directors have no hesitation in concluding that these interests will be better served by a partnership with UTC and Fiat.

Delay could be extremely damaging to Westland. It is vital that you send your Proxy in favour of the Resolutions to arrive by this weekend.

Yours faithfully,

John Cuckooey
Chairman

WESTLAND plc

(Registered in England No. 302632)

Directors:
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Registered Office:
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Somerset BA20 1TP

6th January 1986

To the shareholders and, for information only, to the holders of the Company's debenture stocks and participants in the Company's share option schemes.

Dear Shareholders,

I wrote to you on 21st December, 1985 recommending a proposed association between Westland, UTC and Fiat as part of a reconstruction of Westland (the "Original Proposal"). In that letter I referred to alternative proposals which had been received from a group of European industrial companies (the "Consortium"). Since then there have been further developments. First, the Consortium revised its proposals, and full details of these were sent to you on 2nd January 1986. Secondly, UTC and Fiat have now improved their Original Proposals and these are set out in Appendix I (the "Improved Proposals").

Against this background, your Board has evaluated the two proposals with the utmost thoroughness. It has had to weigh up not only the immediate financial benefits of the proposals for the Company and its shareholders but also their longer term potential. In this connection, the Board has consistently maintained that the Company's future lies in an association with a substantial international business. Even if the two financial proposals had not been broadly similar, the respective commercial merits of the proposals would have been of major significance.

Your Board is firmly convinced that the qualitative nature of the work offered by UTC and Fiat and an association with two major private sector companies will be of greater benefit to the Company and other better prospects for it to regain its former pre-eminence in the European military helicopter market. Although the situation has not been without its wider political overtones, your Board is, of course, required to act solely in the best interests of Westland's shareholders and employees.

The Directors, after the most careful consideration, unanimously and strongly recommend you to support the Improved Proposals from UTC and Fiat.

Both proposals are summarised in Appendix II to this letter. In financial terms they are broadly similar, although the Improved Proposals from UTC and Fiat raise more money for the Company. An important element of the Improved Proposals is that UTC will give up its ten year option to subscribe for additional shares at 85p per share. Instead, at the time of the Annual General Meeting expected to be held next month, shareholders will be asked to approve an issue of warrants to subscribe for new A Ordinary Shares, to be granted to all holders of Existing Ordinary Shares, as described in paragraph 2 of Appendix I.

Why your Board recommends the UTC and Fiat proposals

In your Board's opinion the key difference between the two proposals is that the commercial viability of Westland will be altogether better assured with UTC and Fiat. Westland has had almost forty years of increasingly successful working relationships with Sikorsky. Your Board is confident that the strengthened association now proposed will represent a true partnership which will bring long term benefits to Westland. UTC, Fiat and Westland are all based in countries which are members of NATO, the cornerstone of British and European defence. To meet HM Government's wish that a British helicopter design, development and manufacturing capability should, if possible, be maintained, it is vital for Westland to retain the ability to design, manufacture and develop complete helicopters. Under the Consortium's proposal, notwithstanding the guarantees of work over the next few years, it is the Board's considered view that Westland's role as a helicopter manufacturer would steadily be reduced to that of a manufacturer of parts only. For a Company, one of whose principal assets is the engineering and technical skills of its workforce, this is a most unappealing prospect. Under the Improved Proposals from UTC and Fiat, not only is the quality of the workload superior to that offered by the Consortium, but the licence to market and manufacture the Black Hawk secures an important addition to the Company's helicopter product range.

A further benefit is the association of the technologies, and aerospace activities of the Fiat group with those of Westland. The Fiat group is a very large and profitable international group with a broad spectrum of industrial interests in aviation, space and materials technology. Many of its interests dovetail with Westland's and this will result in opportunities for strengthening Westland's technological capability and for opening up new markets to it. The Fiat group and Westland, moreover, are two of Europe's leading helicopter transmission manufacturers.

Westland is altogether more likely to improve its efficiency and to prosper as part of a partnership with two such substantial international private sector companies as UTC and Fiat than it would in association with an ad hoc grouping of companies, some of which are state-owned and competitors both of ourselves and each other. The Directors believe that, given the existing capacity and manning level problems in the European helicopter industry, the Consortium's reaction to UTC's and Fiat's initiatives was influenced in part by deterministic considerations. By contrast, UTC's and Fiat's proposed investment is forward looking and constructive.

Westland's future in Europe - the Prime Minister's letter
The Prime Minister stated in a letter of 15th January 1986 (the full text of which is set out in Appendix IV) that "as long as Westland continues to carry on business in the UK, the Government will of course continue to regard it as a British and therefore European company, and will support it in pursuing British interests in Europe".
Westland holds a firm contract for the development of the Anglo-Italian EH101 helicopter. In addition, the Company is involved on behalf of HM Government on the NATO naval and military light support helicopter (NH90), and is advising HM Government on the light attack helicopter (LAH). The Prime Minister has further assured your Board that "the Government would continue to support Westland's wish to participate in these projects and would resist to the best of its ability attempts by others to discriminate against Westland". UTC and Fiat have reaffirmed that they too will fully support Westland in all the European collaborative projects in which it is currently or may in the future be involved.

The Board takes considerable comfort from these assurances. Given the importance of the United Kingdom market for helicopters and the technical contribution which a strong Westland can make to European collaborative projects, the Board is confident that the Company will continue to benefit from such arrangements.

UTC and Fiat have made it clear that their participation in Westland is not conditional upon orders from the Ministry of Defence for the Black Hawk helicopter. Whilst the Ministry of Defence at present states that it has no intention of procuring the Black Hawk helicopter, HM Government has made it clear that its "policy will remain that the United Kingdom should procure its helicopters from the most cost-effective source".

Westland's bankers

The Board of Westland is very appreciative of the support which it has received from its principal bankers in this difficult period, in particular for their participation in the proposed reconstruction of the Company. The Banks have been kept informed by the Company of its position, including the two latest proposals.

The Banks have agreed, in line with their original commitment, to accept the Improved Proposals from UTC and Fiat, subject to those proposals being acceptable to shareholders.

Immediate action to be taken

In order to effect the proposed Reconstruction, it is necessary to pass certain resolutions at the Extraordinary General Meeting on Tuesday, 14th January, 1986. Two of the resolutions are Special Resolutions which require a three-quarters majority. In order to support your Board's recommendation, it is essential that you complete and return the proxy card which was enclosed with my letter to you on 21st December, 1985. In case you have mislaid the original proxy form, another proxy form is included at the bottom of this page. TO BE VALID, PROXIES MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN 10.30 A.M. ON SUNDAY 12TH JANUARY, 1986. TO ENSURE THAT YOUR PROXY IS RECEIVED IN TIME YOU ARE STRONGLY URGED (IF YOU HAVE NOT ALREADY DONE SO) TO COMPLETE AND POST YOUR PROXY CARD NOW.

If you have any difficulty in completing and/or returning your proxy card in time, please ring 01-583 1398 between 10 a.m. and 8 p.m. daily.
Recommendation
Your Directors and their financial advisers, Lazard Brothers, consider that the Improved Proposals from UTC and Fiat are in the best interests of the Company and its shareholders. Your Directors unanimously recommend you to vote in favour of the resolutions to be put before shareholders at the Extraordinary General Meeting, as they intend to do in respect of their own holdings of Existing Ordinary Shares.

Westland has operated in circumstances of extreme uncertainty for some eight months. It is therefore imperative that certainty and stability are restored without any further delay and that the Board is allowed to give its undivided attention to the Company's business and to rebuilding its prosperity. Shareholders owe before them Improved Proposals from UTC and Fiat which the Board and its advisers have considered with the utmost care and which will give effect both to a capital reconstruction and so association which the Board believes will not only achieve stability but will also provide the potential for the Company's future growth. You are therefore urged to express your confidence in the Board by voting in favour of the Resolutions on 14th January. Any delay in effecting the proposed Reconstruction could be seriously damaging for your Company.

Yours faithfully,
John Cuckooey
Chairman

APPENDIX I

IMPROVED PROPOSALS FROM UTC AND FIAT

The variations to the Original Proposals set out in the circular dated 21st December, 1985 are as follows:

1. Increased subscription by UTC and Fiat
It is proposed that UTC and Fiat will continue to subscribe for the same number of Preferred Ordinary Shares and B Preference Shares as earlier described, except that they will subscribe for the Preferred Ordinary Shares at a price of 65p per share rather than, as formerly indicated, 60p per share. It should be noted that the additional premium of 5p per share represented by the increased subscription price will not be repayable in a winding up to the holders of Preferred Ordinary Shares in priority to any payment to the holders of the Ordinary Shares.

2. Warrants for Westland shareholders
Under the Improved Proposals, UTC will give up its ten year option to subscribe for additional shares at 85p per share. Instead, an issue of warrants will be made to holders of Existing Ordinary Shares on the register at the close of business on 7th January, 1986 (the Record Date for the proposed rights issue) on a 2 for 5 basis, fractional entitlements being ignored. No payment will be required in respect of the warrants unless and until subscription rights in relation to the warrants are exercised. Full exercise of these warrants would result in the issue of up to 23,718,986 A Ordinary Shares. The right to subscribe for A Ordinary Shares pursuant to the warrants will be exercisable on 31st July and 28th February in each year at 85p per share. The first subscription date will be 31st July 1986 and the last, 28th February, 1996. It is proposed to convene an Annual General Meeting for 28th February, 1986 and an appropriate resolution in relation to the issue of the warrants will be proposed at that Meeting.

Application will be made to the Council of the Stock Exchange for the warrants, which will be issued in registered form, to be admitted to the Official List. It is intended that definitive warrant certificates will be despatched on 28th February, 1986 and that their listing will become effective on 3rd March, 1986. Following the exercise of subscription rights under the warrants the Board intends to make application to the Council of the Stock Exchange for the new A Ordinary Shares resulting therefrom to be admitted to the Official List. The new A Ordinary Shares will then be issued, rank pari passu with the then existing A Ordinary Shares save for dividends and other distributions made or paid with a reference date prior to the issue of such A Ordinary Shares.

The receipt of the warrants will not give rise to a disposal of Existing Ordinary Shares for the purposes of United Kingdom taxation of capital gains and the warrants will be regarded as part of each shareholder's total holding. For the purposes of calculating gains or losses on any subsequent disposal of either shares or warrants the original

cost will be allocated between the shares and warrants by reference to their respective quoted values on 3rd March, 1986.

Full details of the warrants will be sent to shareholders in due course.

3. Guarantees of Work

Under the Original Proposals, UTC formally committed to provide not less than 1 million man hours of work for Westland over a three year period. UTC's revised commitment, which is independent of market conditions and subject only to necessary Government approvals and reasonable terms, conditions and prices, provides for a total of 2 million man hours over a five year period. It is intended that this work will include approximately 1.2 million engineering man hours and approximately 0.8 million manufacturing man hours, the former being of a technological and engineering nature related to the newer models currently being designed, developed and produced by Sikorsky.

4. Purchase of A Preference Shares
UTC and Fiat have agreed to purchase, and the Banks have agreed to sell, 5 million A Preference Shares at par subject to such shares being allotted.

In all other respects, in particular in relation to the rights issue, the conversion of bank debt, the reduction of capital and the taking of a Black Hawk licence, the Improved Proposals from UTC and Fiat are identical with the Original Proposals set out in the circular dated 21st December, 1985.

APPENDIX II

COMPARISON OF IMPROVED UTC/FIAT PROPOSALS WITH CONSORTIUM PROPOSALS

A summary comparison between the Improved Proposals from UTC and Fiat and the proposals from the Consortium is set out below:

	UTC/Fiat	Consortium
	£m	£m
Financial		
New ordinary share capital subscribed by existing shareholders	14.2	13.0
New ordinary share capital subscribed by potential partners	23.1	23.1
New preference share capital to be subscribed or purchased by potential partners	13.7	14.0
Conversion of bank debt into preference share capital, net of sales*	23.0	23.0
Total reconstruction package	74.0	73.1

*UTC and Fiat have agreed to purchase 5 million A Preference Shares from the Banks at par

Other Features	UTC/Fiat	Consortium
Subscription price of rights issue shares	60p	55p
Subscription price per ordinary share by potential partners	65p	65p
Coupon on preference share capital - non-convertible	10%	8%
convertible	7.5%	7.5%
Number of warrants to be issued to all existing shareholders	up to 23.7m	-
Number of warrants to be issued to existing shareholders who take up their rights	-	up to 23.7m
Work commitment		
Guaranteed man hours	2.0m*	1.8m*
*over 5 years		
*over 3 years		
Fully diluted shareholdings*		
Existing shareholders	64%	63%
potential partners	21%	21%
The Banks	15%	16%

*following full conversion and exercise of warrants

APPENDIX III

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

1. Responsibility for Supplementary Listing Particulars
UTC and Fiat have responsibility for the information contained in this document regarding the UTC group and the Fiat group respectively. The Directors of Westland, whose names appear in paragraph 1 of Part I of the Appendix to the Listing Particulars, are the persons responsible for all other information contained in this document. To the best of the knowledge and belief of the Directors of Westland (who have taken all reasonable care to ensure that such is the case), the information contained in this document is in accordance with the facts and does not omit anything likely to affect the import of such information. UTC, Fiat and the Directors of Westland accept responsibility accordingly.

2. Material contract
In addition to those contracts disclosed in the Listing Particulars, the following contract, not being a contract entered into in the ordinary course of business, and which is, or may be, material, has been entered into by the Westland group within the two years immediately preceding the date of this document:

A letter agreement dated 5th January, 1986 between the Company (1) and UTC (2) pursuant to which UTC confirmed, for itself and on behalf of Fiat, that UTC and/or Fiat and/or a related company of UTC and/or Fiat will subscribe for a total of 35,500,000 Preferred Ordinary Shares at a price of 65p per share (and not at a price of 60p per share as provided for in the Subscription Agreement described in paragraph 6 of Part IV of the Appendix to the Listing Particulars).

3. Miscellaneous
1) Lazard Brothers has given and not withdrawn its written consent to the issue of this document with the

inclusion therein of the statement attributed to it and references to its name in the form and context in which they appear.

(b) As referred to in the Chairman's letter and Appendix I of this document, under the Improved Proposals UTC has given up its option to subscribe for additional shares in Westland. Accordingly, the confirmation given by the Panel on Take-overs and Mergers referred to in paragraph 13 of the Chairman's letter contained in the Listing Particulars is no longer appropriate and will cease to apply.

(c) In relation to the proposed purchase of 21 Westland 30 helicopters by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission of India referred to on pages 5 and 6 of the Listing Particulars, since 21st December, 1985, the date of the Listing Particulars it has been announced by the Indian Government that such a contract has been awarded to Westland, however, legal documentation has yet to be concluded.

(d) The gross amount payable to the Company in respect of the equity securities to be allotted pursuant to resolution number 3 set out in the Notice of Extraordinary General Meeting contained in the Listing Particulars (as referred to in paragraph 7(k)(iii) of Part IV of the Appendix to the Listing Particulars) is £58,306,392.

(e) UTC have been advised by Morgan Grenfell & Co. Limited in relation to the Reconstruction and the Improved Proposals.

(f) The definitions set out on page 2 of the circular to shareholders dated 21st December, 1985 apply for the purposes of this document.

4. Documents available for inspection

Copies of the following documents will be available for inspection during usual business hours on any weekday (Saturdays and public holidays excepted) at the offices of Slaughter and May, 35 Basinghall Street, London EC2V 5DB, until 4th February, 1986:

- (a) the documents listed as available for inspection in paragraph 10 of Part IV of the Appendix to the Listing Particulars;
- (b) the material contract referred to in paragraph 2 of this Appendix IV;
- (c) the letter from the Chairman of Westland to shareholders of Westland dated 21st January, 1986;
- (d) the Listing Particulars; and
- (e) the consent letter referred to in paragraph 2(a) above.

APPENDIX IV

GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES

1. The following is the text of a letter sent by the Chairman to the Prime Minister on 30th December, 1985:

"Dear Prime Minister,
In view of the response you made to a question in the House of Commons on the 19th December that major procurement decisions are a matter for the Government as a whole, it would greatly help my Board to know if Westland would no longer be considered a European company by the Government if a minority shareholding in the company were held by a major international group from a NATO country outside Europe.

This question is of fundamental importance in view of the statement in a letter from the Procurement Executive, Ministry of Defence to Lloyds Merchant Bank dated 24th December that only by joining the so-called European consortium would Westland be in a position to take responsibility for the British share of European helicopter collaborative projects.

Yours sincerely,
John Cuckooey

2. The following is the text of the Prime Minister's reply to the above letter, dated 1st January 1986:

"Dear Sir John,
Thank you for your letter of 30th December. It has naturally been the Government's concern that a British helicopter design, development and manufacturing capability should, if possible, be maintained, despite the present difficulties of your company. I understand that both the proposals Westland now have under consideration are intended to achieve that objective. As long as Westland continues to carry on business in the UK, the Government will of course continue to regard it as a British and therefore European company, and will support it in pursuing British interests in Europe.

Government policy will remain that the United Kingdom should procure its helicopters from the most cost-effective source. Against this background, the Government would wish to see Westland play a full part in existing and future European collaborative projects. Some of these are still at a very early stage and of these require the agreement of the companies and governments - including HMG - concerned. In this connection you should be aware of indications from European governments and companies that they currently take the view that a number of projects in which Westland are expected to participate in co-operation with other European companies, may be lost to Westland if the United Technologies/Fiat proposals are accepted.

It is for you to assess the significance of these indications. But of course British participation is itself an important element in the viability of European collaborative projects. And I can assure you that, whichever of the two proposals currently under consideration the company choose to accept, the Government would continue to support Westland's wish to participate in these projects and would resist to the best of its ability attempts by others to discriminate against Westland.

I have not dealt with the question of the possible consequences for Westland's present relationship with Sikorsky of a decision to accept the European consortium's proposals. You will no doubt have made your own assessment of these.

Yours sincerely,
Margaret Thatcher

Vote today. Any delay could seriously damage your company.

Please return the proxy form to The Registrar, Westland plc, National Westminster Bank PLC, Registrar's Department, P.O. Box 82, 37 Broad Street, Bristol BS99 7YA. Form of Proxy for use at the Extraordinary General Meeting of Westland plc ("the Company") to be held on Tuesday, 14th January, 1986. I/We the undersigned being (a) member(s) of the Company, hereby appoint the Chairman of the Meeting or (see note 1).

as my/our proxy to vote for me/us on my/our behalf at the Extraordinary General Meeting of the Company convened for 10.30 a.m. on 14th January, 1986 and at any adjournment thereof. I/We direct that my/our vote(s) be cast on the resolutions referred to in the Notice of Meeting as indicated by an X as shown opposite and on any other resolution in such manner as my/our proxy thinks fit.

Date: _____
Signature(s): _____
Name(s) in full: _____
Address(es): _____

RESOLUTIONS:	FOR	AGAINST
Number 1: Ordinary Resolution		
Number 2: Special Resolution		
Number 3: Special Resolution		

Notes
1. If you wish to appoint any other person as your proxy, who need not be a Member of the Company, please delete the words "the Chairman of the Meeting" and insert the name and address of your proxy.
2. Please indicate how you wish the proxy to vote in respect of the resolutions. If no indication is given, the proxy will have discretion as to whether and how to vote.
3. To be valid this proxy form when completed must be signed by the member or other authorised person of the Company and must be accompanied by a copy of the share certificate or other evidence of title, if any. If the proxy is a company, it must be signed by a director or secretary of the company.
4. In the case of a corporation, this proxy form must be executed under its common seal or signed on behalf by a duly authorised officer.
5. In the case of joint holders, the vote of the senior holder (as determined by reference to the order in which the names stand in the register, but the names of all holders must be shown) shall be decisive.
6. Any shareholder to this proxy form should be initiated.

WESTLAND

Parents form action groups to halt school pay dispute

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent

Parents in London, concerned about the effects of the teachers' pay dispute, have formed an action group to press for an end to the disruption.

A similar group of parents in Nottingham has also been formed with the slogan: Enough is Enough. There are others in Waltham Forest, outer London, Hampshire, South Wales, and Lancashire.

The All-England Parents Action Group is calling on the Government to immediately end the teachers' action by providing professional levels of salary. It also says it aims to "save state education" and demands that the Government stop education cuts.

Mrs Margaret Henry, who chaired the 23-members steering committee which set up the London action group on Sunday night, said that parents' accounts of what was happening to their children's education was horrific. She said: "There is great distress and anger and people are worried their children are having their futures closed down."

News of the new organization, which is holding a rallying meeting at Conway Hall on January 14, comes on the day that the teachers' side in the 11-month pay dispute meets to discuss whether to opt for conciliation.

Yesterday was the first day of term. At present the two biggest unions are working to rule, with lightning strike action planned by the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers later this week.

The biggest teachers' union, the National Union of Teachers, is, however, not taking strike action until later this month. It is at present balloting members for a half-day strike in January to enable rallies to be held locally. It is the union's eleventh strike ballot.

● Poundswick High School pupils return today for the first time since the so-called obscene graffiti dispute started four months ago. (Peter Davenport writes)

But the issue at the centre of the dispute, the future education of five boys accused of dabbling "obscene" slogans, remains unresolved and there is a risk of further disruption.

The teachers who went back to the school, on the Wythenshawe estate, in Manchester yesterday were adamant that they will refuse to take any classes which include the five fifth-year boys.

Acland to be next Washington envoy

By Nicholas Ashford, Diplomatic Correspondent

Sir Antony Acland, who is to become the next British Ambassador in Washington this summer, has been the top diplomat in the Foreign Office for the past four years.

An Arabist by training, he spent the early part of his diplomatic career in the Middle East, notably in Dubai and Kuwait.

His promotion was swift. He was assistant private secretary to two foreign secretaries, Mr Selwyn Lloyd and Lord Home, then held senior posts in New York and Geneva before taking over as head of the Arabian department in London.

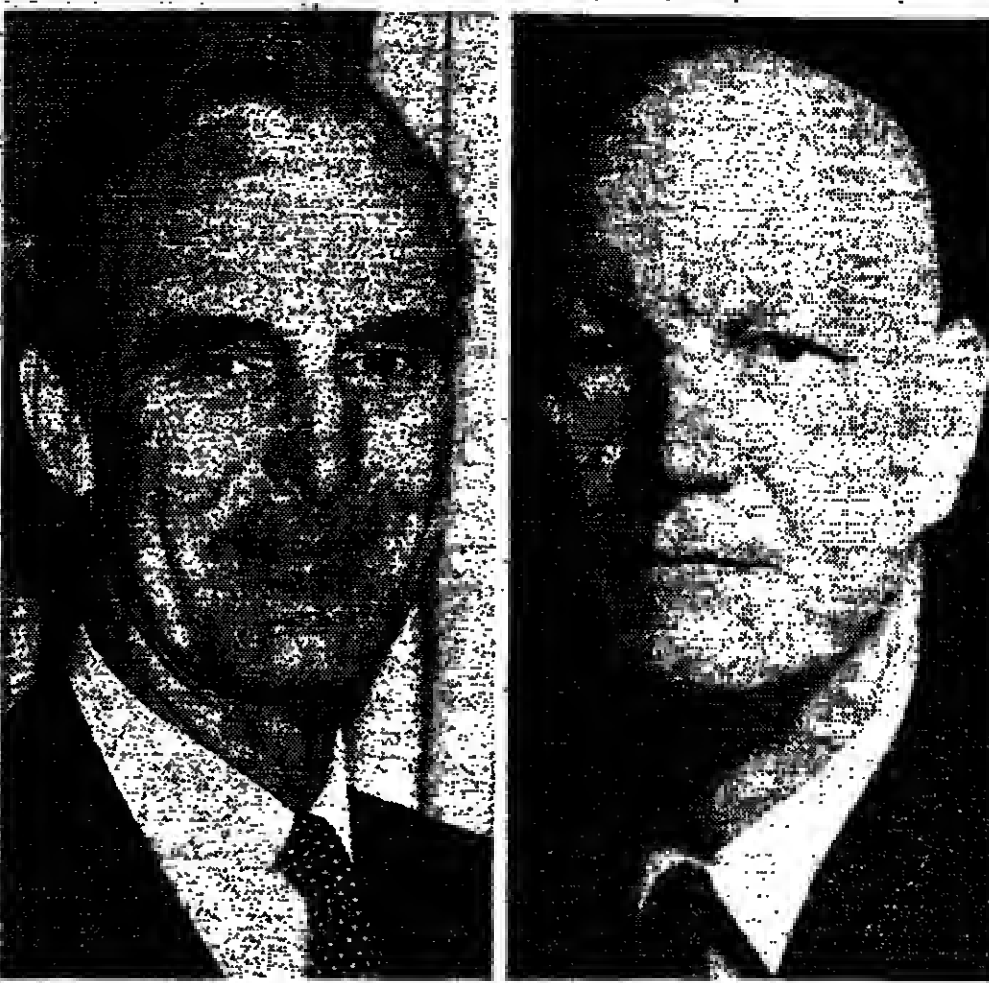
After serving as principal private secretary to Sir Alec Douglas-Home and Mr James Callaghan, he went on to become Ambassador first to Luxembourg and then to Madrid.

His promotion to Permanent Under-Secretary in 1982 came as a surprise because he had frogged several more senior members of the Diplomatic Service.

His successor as Permanent Under-Secretary, Sir Patrick Wright, is also an Arabist. Much of his 30 years in the Diplomatic Service has been spent in the Middle East.

One of his first posts was in Beirut. He later worked in Cairo and Bahrain before becoming head of the Middle East department in London.

Later, like his predecessor, he



Sir Antony Acland (above left), Ambassador-designate to Washington, and Sir Patrick Wright, who is to be Head of the Diplomatic Service, with (below) Sir Oliver Wright, who is retiring for the second time as ambassador in Washington.



Dismissed fire chief for trial

Trevor Martin, former chief fire officer of Derbyshire who was dismissed last September, was committed on bail to Nottingham Crown Court for trial by magistrates at Derby yesterday, accused of obtaining £1,236.14 in car mileage expenses by deception, and the theft of 13 gallons of petrol.

Loss of property advertising forces newspaper to close

By Robin Young

England's oldest daily newspaper outside London, the Sheffield Morning Telegraph, is to close on February 8, after the failure of local estate agencies to renew annual advertising contracts.

The Morning Telegraph has been owned since 1964 by United Newspapers, the group which recently took over the Daily Express and which also owns the Yorkshire Post. The Post may now attempt to increase sales in the Sheffield area.

The Sheffield Telegraph was the first of the penny papers launched in 1855 after the abolition of stamp duty on newspapers. It appeared with the motto: "Servant unto our Master, of our Sect and I", but had a precarious existence from the start. Its first editor was a fly-by-night Scot who skipped town after 10 issues.

Thereafter the Morning Telegraph had only 12 more editors. Outstanding among them was Sir William Leng (1864 to 1905), whose career began with coverage of the disastrous Sheffield flood, when a dam burst and victims' bodies were swept as far away as Doncaster, and continued with exposure of Sheffield trade union outrages.

More recently the Morning Telegraph won national attention with its coverage of the Sheffield "rhino-whip" police corruption case under the editorship of Mr David Hopkinson (1962-64), who is now

chief night editor of The Times. Other distinguished journalists who worked for the newspaper include Mr Donald Treford, editor of The Observer, Miss Jean Rook of the Daily Express, Mr Keith Graves of the BBC, and Mr Peter Tinniswood, the author.

The Telegraph subsumed its even older political rival, the Sheffield Daily Independent (founded 1819), in 1938. In recent years there has been an almost uninterrupted decline in circulation, from more than 84,000 in 1960 to barely 30,000 now.

WOOLWICH TELEGRAPH

The Morning Telegraph lost £955,000 in 1985, despite of property advertising worth £1.8 million. Previous losses were £851,000 in 1984 and £724,000 in 1983.

A Hull publisher, Mr Peter Robinson, has announced plans for a free weekly property newsheet and the Morning Telegraph management says that the newspaper would not have sufficient property advertising to contain its losses within acceptable bounds. No fresh sources of revenue could be found, and since a cost-cutting operation in 1982 there was no hope of further economies.

Sheffield Newspapers, is seeking 240 voluntary redundancies by January 13. So far 103 employees have applied to the company.

Buyer for West End theatres

By David Hewson, Arts Correspondent

On the day that Andrew Lloyd Webber's Really Useful Company became the first theatre production organization to be floated publicly, London's West End stage received further proof of its viability with the proposed sale of the Duchess and Garrick theatres.

Both theatres went on the market two months ago, when Gomba, their parent company, was put into receivership in the aftermath of the Johnson Matthey Bank collapse. They are likely to be sold to Stoll Moss for an undisclosed fee, advancing the company's lead in London theatre ownership.

Stoll Moss, disclosed yesterday that it had exchanged contracts with the Duchess, which seats 487, and the Garrick, which seats 711. If, as seems likely, the deal goes through, Stoll Moss will own or control 10 West End theatres, four more than its nearest rival, the Maybox group, formerly the Albany company.

It is understood that a number of would-be purchasers had been looking at the properties before Stoll Moss moved to close the deal yesterday.

The planned sale is unlikely to affect the productions at the two theatres. The Garrick is occupied by No Sex Please We're British, the long-running comedy "beloved" of Japanese tourists, while the Duchess is staging The Glass Menagerie. Neither show had any financial involvement with Gomba.

The fate of the third Gomba theatre, the Mermaid at Finsbury Dock, which was bought when the original theatre company under Lord Miles collapsed, remains unresolved. The City of London Corporation, which owns the freehold, and Tonche Reznant, the owner of the head lease, are involved in talks about its future.

Really Useful issue, page 19
Temps, page 21

Guidelines for safer skiing

Thousson Prentice, Science Correspondent

Skiers are warned to take extra precautions to avoid increased risks of injury this winter.

The Chartered Society of Physiotherapy, representing 22,000 British physiotherapists, has issued guidelines on safer skiing, because, it says, too many holidaymakers are returning needing treatment for injuries.

At least one in 30 skiers comes home injured, the society says, but many of the accidents are due to unfit or inexperienced skiers overstretching themselves or wearing wrong clothing.

A survey has shown that 42 per cent of injuries were to the lower limb, particularly the knee, and 17 per cent to the head, face or neck.

The society's ABC of Safer Skiing is available free, on receipt of an SAE, from 14 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4ED.

Claim dropped

A former secretary of Mr Roy Hattersley, deputy leader of the Labour Party, yesterday dropped an unfair dismissal claim concerning her dismissal last year. A London industrial tribunal hearing was cancelled when Miss Margaret Pryor, aged 51, of Islington, north London, withdrew her claim after talks with the arbitration service.

Moore divorce

Bobby Moore, former England football captain aged 44, was divorced by his wife, Tina, aged 42, at the London Divorce Court yesterday because of his adultery with an air stewardess, Miss Parlane-Moore, aged 34.

Aircraft debris

The Civil Aviation Authority yesterday started an inquiry after a 4ft section of wing flap thought to have fallen from an aircraft was found on an island in the river Kennet at Burghfield, near Reading, Berkshire.

Interest rises in Woolwich Capital Account.

9.52% = 9.75% = 13.92%

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A National Meeting, Oxford, 18 February 1986

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Deloitte Haskins & Sells is co-operating inside and outside the NHS to provide seminars which will explore the implications of the DPA to Medicine with a view to forming medical working protocols within the many grey areas.

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Session 2 - The impact on the patient and effects on medical practice
Session 3 - Analysis of case examples
Session 4 - What you must be doing now and identification of areas for further work.

In addition, there will be side-meetings for professional subgroups covering topics including OSI, encryption, mailboxes, picture transmission, Korner recommendations, laboratory medicine and primary care.

These proceedings will be published by the NHS Training Authority, and will be offered to the Home Office and submitted to DHSS in response to Circular 85/23, on subject access rights.

Future seminars will be arranged in other locations including Scotland, if sufficient demand is indicated by response to this seminar.

Reply as matter of urgency to:
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French look to their rail transport strengths on Channel link options

From Diana Geddes Paris

Of the four main contenders for a fixed channel link, the French Government is thought to be most attracted by the twin-bore rail tunnel because of the supreme importance it gives to rail transport, which France considers one of its strengths.

£400m wanted by British Rail

British Rail has told the Government that it wants to spend £400 million on new equipment - trains, track, terminals and signalling equipment - for a Channel tunnel.

British sources believe that President Mitterrand may have a sneaking preference for EuroRoute's £4.7 billion combined bridge and tunnel plan.

He is said to be keen to choose the scheme which will create most jobs, in spite of speculation that the joint appraisal concluded the largely French-designed project was too costly and technically ambitious.

The only proposal that appears to have been ruled out so far is Eurobridge's full bridge. It is thought to be too costly, at £5.9 billion, and too futuristic.

The schemes will be discussed at a Cabinet meeting on Thursday.

One item on the agenda for the meeting between Mr Ridley and M Auroux is a possible compromise which would combine the best of the schemes by Channel Tunnel Group and Channel Expressway.

Channel Expressway's powerful backing in the British Government is all the more surprising because Mr Sherwood, whose Sea Containers owns Sealink Ferries, emerged as a contender only in April.

French opposition to the American-born Mr Sherwood centres on the paucity of French involvement in his £2.1 billion scheme.

Channel Expressway tried to counter this criticism recently by bringing in SCREG, a leading French construction group, as project manager for the French half of the link.

Mr Sherwood has done little in the past year to dampen French suspicion of his scheme, having made several outspoken references to French chauvinism and methods.

Although Mr Reagan may be over-stating the extent of Colonel Gaddafi's power, few people in the West would doubt his capacity to make often deadly mischief.

His foreign adventures, his associations with revolutionary groups and his advocacy of violent methods to deal with Libyan opponents of his regime have given him the image of a tyrant bent on expanding Libya's influence by violent means.

In spite of many apparent inconsistencies - such as his flirtations with the Soviet Union without abandoning his anti-Communist views - there are common threads to his behaviour.

First, he is a staunch opponent of Israel and a passionate supporter of the Palestinian cause. This explains his support for Palestinian organizations, such as the Abu Nidal group, and his praise for acts of terrorism against Israeli targets.

Secondly, he has an obsession about the "imperialist" intention of Western powers, whom he sees as being in league with Israel; and, linked to this, a belief that "liberation" organizations struggling against imperialism should be aided.

This explains his frequently voiced support for organizations such as the IRA, the Red Brigades in Italy and the Red Army Faction in West Germany, as well as the Sandinista government of Nicaragua and anti-government rebels in El Salvador.

Thirdly, his belief in Muslim unity has led him into war (in Chad), into border disputes with neighbours who do not share his view of a Muslim unity led by Libya, and into political relationships with a disparate variety of Islamic leaders ranging from Idi Amin, former President of Uganda, to the conservative King Hassan of Morocco, with whom he signed a treaty of union in 1984.

Fourthly, his fear of plots to depose him of which there have been at least 15, has led him to be ruthless in his pursuit of political opponents, a number of whom have been tracked down and murdered by agents abroad.

Despite the growing impression that Colonel Gaddafi's hand is behind many recent terrorist attacks, there is often little firm evidence to prove Libyan involvement.



Mr Husain Musawi, head of the Islamic Amal Shia fundamentalist group in Lebanon, reading letters at his Baalbek headquarters yesterday from US schoolchildren pleading for the release of American hostages.

Guards saw inmates kill three in jail mutiny

Moundsville, West Virginia (AFP) - Prison guards held hostage by mutineers last week were forced to watch the killing of at least three convicts accused of being informers.

Sixteen guards, held unharmed for two days until the authorities agreed to talk about the 200 mutineers' complaints of overcrowding and unsanitary conditions, were ordered not to talk about horrific scenes during their ordeal.

Blood-thirsted convicts with makeshift knives cut the throats of the accused traitors, ripped out their hearts and paraded through cellblocks, one guard alleged. He claimed that a fellowwarder was forced to watch the killing of a convicted murderer.

Another guard was in hospital suffering from shock. One of his colleagues claimed he saw the killing of another convicted murderer, whose throat was slit and whose body was then allegedly kicked from one end of the cell block to another.

The state Governor, March Moore, said after the last of the hostage guards were freed on Friday that immunity for taking part in the mutiny would not cover any inmates found guilty of murdering fellow-convicts.

He said that the accused stool-pigeons had been subjected to mock trials, with the accusers allegedly playing the role of "judge, jury and executioner".

Iraq claims gains in attack on islands

Baghdad (Reuters) - Iraq yesterday said its troops had recaptured parts of the southern Majnoon Islands, seized by Iranian forces in a Gulf War offensive early in 1984.

A High Command communiqué said two brigades of the Iraqi Third Army Corps launched a surprise attack overnight and "liberated" several miles of enemy-held territory, killing hundreds of Iranian and wounding many more.

President Saddam Hussein said in a broadcast speech marking Army Day that any fresh Iranian offensive would only end in catastrophe for Tehran's leaders.

NICOSIA: Iran said its soldiers repulsed the Iraqi attack on the islands (AP reports).

EEC call to go at same speed

The Hague (Reuters) - The Netherlands, current President of the European Community, will press other members at a ministers' meeting this week to move towards common road speed limits, the Transport Ministry said.

Mrs Neelie Smit-Kroes, the Transport Minister, favours a flexible range of limits, keeping speeds low on busy roads but high where traffic and light and road conditions good.

Rape charges

Copenhagen (AFP) - A 38-year-old doctor has been charged with the rape and attempted rape of a large number of women he drugged during night house calls, police in the Copenhagen suburb of Lyngby said.

Strike ended

Dhaka, Bangladesh (AP) - About 40,000 government doctors, engineers and agricultural staff ended a 15-day strike claiming to have won employment concessions to talks with President Ershad.

Raid torture

Clayton, Missouri (AP) - Robbers pulled out the teeth of a hotel manager with pliers to force him to hand over the keys to an office where \$1,600 (£1,100) was kept.

President Doe

General Samuel Doe, aged 35, swears in yesterday for a six-year term as President of Liberia after widely contested national elections last October.

Nuclear protest

Amberg, West Germany (AP) - One hundred and thirty four anti-nuclear demonstrators were arrested after damaging the facade of a jail here holding the protesters who allegedly clashed with police at a construction site for a nuclear waste-recycling plant about 18 miles away.

Minister quits

Lima (Reuters) - Señor Mario Barreto resigned as Peru's Agriculture Minister after popular protests over widespread shortages of beef, chicken, potatoes and rice.

Border attack

Managua (AP) - President Ortega of Nicaragua accused Honduran soldiers of attacking an Army patrol near Paso de Carazo, two miles inside Nicaragua, on Sunday.

Shuttle hitch

Washington - The space shuttle Columbia's launch was put off for the third time in 19 days, mainly because of mechanical problems. It is now due to blast off today.

Soldiers killed

Colombo (Reuters) - Six Sri Lankan soldiers were killed when their vehicle was blown up by a land mine planted by Tamil guerrillas in Vavuni.

Opening up

Lagos (AFP) - President Babangida said he would reopen Nigeria's land borders, closed in 1984, with a "minimum of delay".

Stroke of luck

Wellington (Reuters) - A beach cricketer smashed a 68-run shark with his bat after it threatened his nine-year-old son while he was surfing in southern New Zealand.

The terrorism connection

Rationale of Gaddafi's deadly mischief

By Nicholas Ashford, Diplomatic Correspondent

President Reagan has described Colonel Gaddafi, the Libya leader, as "the most dangerous man in the world". As a former suspected target for a Libyan assassination plot, he has reason to bold such views.

Although Mr Reagan may be over-stating the extent of Colonel Gaddafi's power, few people in the West would doubt his capacity to make often deadly mischief.

His foreign adventures, his associations with revolutionary groups and his advocacy of violent methods to deal with Libyan opponents of his regime have given him the image of a tyrant bent on expanding Libya's influence by violent means.

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Damascus puzzle of Abu Nidal's office

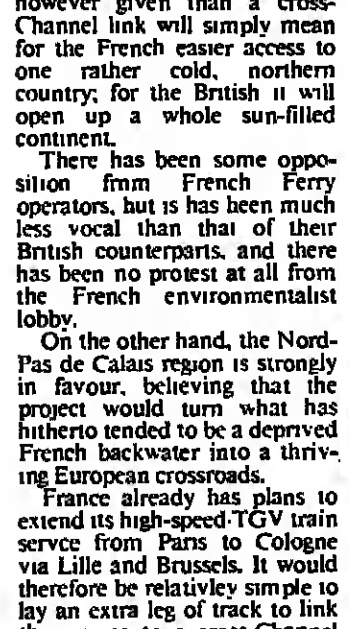
From Robert Fisk, Beirut

Until a few weeks ago, you could bear witness of Sabri el-Bunna - alias Abu Nidal - by pressing the metal bell on the front door of a two-storey apartment in the western suburbs of Damascus.

The walls inside bore no illustrations or "martyrs' portraits", not even an exhibition or two in Arabic. Only a loose carpet of pre-1949 Palestine, its borders fringed in a caucousous hue, explained the purposes of the well-dressed young man who explained Abu Nidal's cause, their well-creased shirts and ties giving them the sort of grim respectability that assassins like to adopt.

Ask the Syrians nowadays if Abu Nidal's office is still in existence and they evince as much puzzlement about the question as they do ignorance about the answer. Mr el-Bunna's presence is, after all, something which the Arab states like to boast of when the time is appropriate, for example, when Mr Yassir Arafat, the PLO leader, condemns Syria as an Israeli puppet.

A rapprochement between Iraq and the PLO - and, more importantly, a promise from the Americans that they would look more kindly upon President Saddam Hussein's regime if he dispensed with Abu Nidal - forced Mr el-Bunna out of Baghdad and into Damascus.



Pineapples used to pelt police

From Neil Kelly Bangkok

Thai riot police did not react when farmers protesting against the Government's agriculture policies pelted them with pineapples outside the Prime Minister's office yesterday.

Earlier, farmers driving lorries laden with pineapples tried to break through the gates but were persuaded to withdraw.

The farmers' protests have been generally peaceful, but there are fears they may get out of hand as some 3,000 rice, pineapple and sugar farmers were joined by others from more distant areas of Thailand.

Police have also been warned that tin miners from the south, hit by the collapse of the international tin market, are on their way to join the Bangkok rallies.

Thai farmers have complained for months that prices are far below production costs, and that Government attempts to manipulate higher prices are not working.

The problems are reflected in the restlessness now overtaking the coalition Government, in which some parties want changes. Mr Anunnay Vassak, the deputy Finance Minister, acknowledging the possibility of mass resignations from the Government, said: "If we think things cannot go on this way, why should we stay and go down with the Prime Minister?"

Scales fault led to US atom death

From Trevor Fishlock New York

The nuclear plant tank that leaked poison gas and a mildly radioactive substance in Oklahoma on the weekend was accidentally overfilled because the pointer on a set of weighing scales jammed.

When workers realized that the 14-ton steel tank was overfilled with a uranium compound they tried to heat it to reduce the contents.

This was an untested procedure. The heat raised the pressure in the tank and it ruptured. One man was killed by toxic fumes and more than 30 people were injured.

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission is investigating the accident of the Kerr-McGee nuclear fuel processing plant in Gore, which has been closed.

The tank was designed to hold 27,500lb of uranium hexafluoride, but it was filled with about 29,500lb. Workers heated it to convert the contents to gas and to bleed off the excess.

On contact with air, the leaking uranium hexafluoride was converted to radioactive uranyl fluoride, which settled on the ground in the plant, and highly corrosive hydrofluoric acid, which drifted as vapour.

Checks on radiation levels around the plant continued yesterday. A state health official said that there was no significant contamination.

Murdoch spearheads TV change

From Ivor Davis Los Angeles

Speaking for the first time as the new owner of Twentieth Century-Fox Film Corporation and six big television stations, Mr Rupert Murdoch, the publisher, said his Fox television network would be in the vanguard of a new era of competition in the United States.

Delivering the keynote address to the Association of Independent Television Stations at the Century Plaza Hotel here, Mr Murdoch said his six Metro Media Inc. television stations would be welded "into a secure base from which to deliver an extensive and successful programming service" that would "give the American people a fresher choice".

"We at Fox are at this moment deeply involved in this work to put shape and form on original programmes, constructed specifically to compete, and increase the audiences of all stations who play them," Mr Murdoch said.

"Our Fox television broadcasting division will be looking at Fox studios as only one source of material, indeed, we will not only buy from the whole universe of suppliers, but will happily consider, indeed seek, programme partnerships with other broadcasters and interested parties."

The Government was recently criticized by the state presidency for failing to halt inflation, which last year reached a record 80 per cent. Living standards have continued to fall, and unemployment, at some 1.2 million, is almost 15 per cent of the labour force, the highest in Europe.

Selecting a new federal prime minister is the prerogative of the state presidency, which earlier failed to agree on the candidature of Mr Ivo Stambolic, put forward by Serbia.

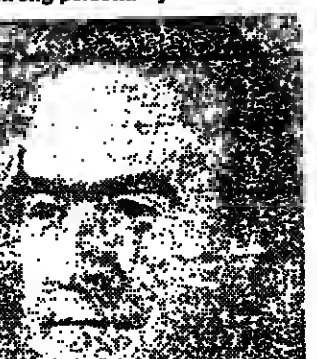
Strong man to lead Yugoslavia

From Dassa Trevisan Belgrade

Mr Branko Mikulic, who has the reputation of being a hardliner, has been designated as Yugoslavia's Prime Minister in the reshuffle due in spring when the present Government's four-year term expires.

Mr Mikulic has often been strongly in favour of action against all kinds of dissent. He is currently one of the eight members of the Yugoslav state presidency, the collective body at the head of the state. In his native Bosnia he is regarded as a strong figure. As head of the Winter Olympic Committee, he organized the games in Sarajevo two years ago which won special recognition for him both at home and abroad.

Obviously in the next four years Yugoslavia will need a strong personality at the head of the Government to carry through the recovery programme and deal with galloping inflation, which the present Government of Mrs Milka Planinc has been unable to curb.



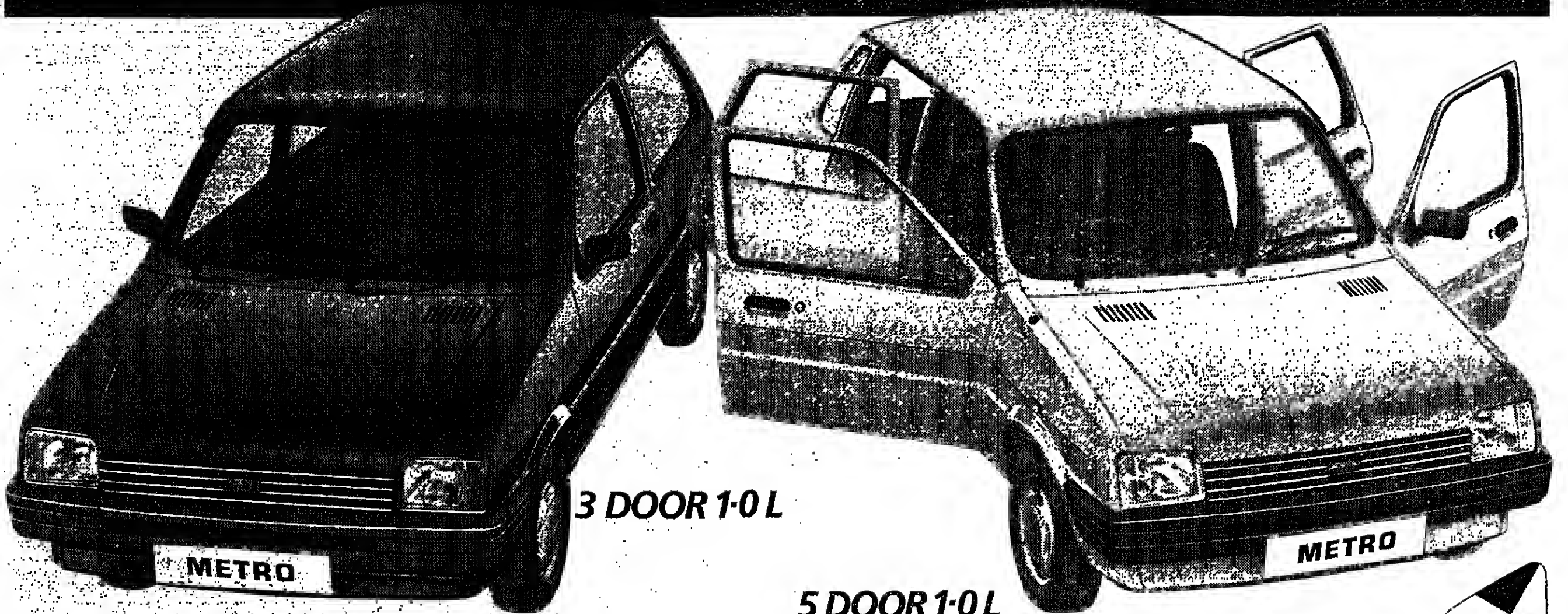
Mr Branko Mikulic, the Yugoslav Prime Minister-designate.

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Splitting within the PLO were nothing new, but the departure of Abu Nidal - his nom-de-guerre literally means "Father of struggle" - unless an unprecedented conflict within the movement. Both sides

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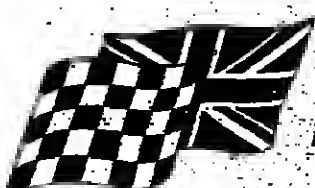
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Botswana border tense as Pretoria troops mass after bomb blast

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg

Tension rose on South Africa's border with Botswana yesterday after the weekend landmine explosion which killed two whites. South African troops were reported pouring into the area as units of the Botswana Defence Force were being sent to the frontier.

At the same time, military headquarters in Windhoek, Namibia, disclosed that South African troops had carried out another raid in southern Angola.

A spokesman described it as a follow-up operation and said that four South West Africa People's Organisation guerrillas had been killed and arms and equipment seized. The South African troops had returned to Namibia.

Windhoek radio said that the raid followed the killing by Swapo insurgents of an Ovambo civilian near the border.

In Maputo, President Machel of Mozambique told diplomats that South Africa continued to give support to the MNR rebel movement despite the 1984 non-aggression accord signed by the two countries. He described South Africa as the base of armed banditry and terrorism against Mozambique.

And on the border of South Africa and land-locked Lesotho, South Africa was maintaining its economic squeeze on the tiny state, which last week accused Pretoria at the UN of mounting a raid in December in which nine people, six of them South African refugees, were killed.

South African officials are allowing only Basotho workers returning to South Africa after the Christmas holidays to cross the border and are meticulously searching all vehicles, causing serious delays in the delivery of food and other essentials.

The South African Foreign Ministry has said that the steps have been taken because of intelligence reports of an African National Congress guerrilla build-up in Lesotho.

The troop build-up on the Botswana border came within hours of South Africa's bluntest warning yet that it would strike across its frontiers in retaliation for a series of landmine blasts which have claimed nine civilian lives in five weeks.

In addition, five people were killed and more than 60 injured when a bomb exploded in a shopping centre at Amanzimtoti, near Durban, two days before Christmas.

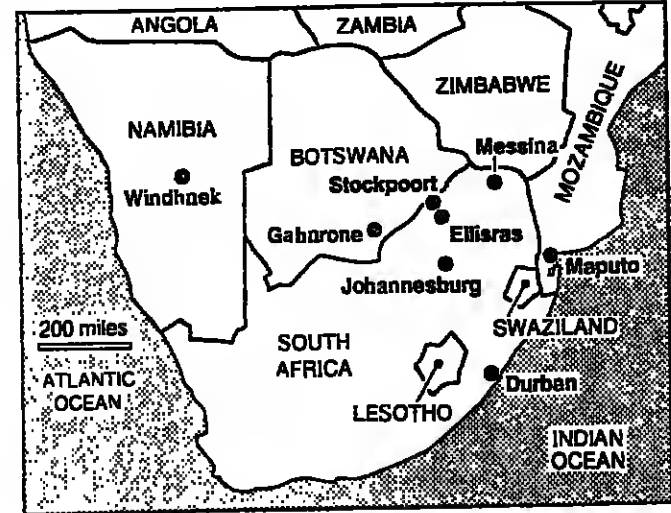
The ultraright wing is baying for revenge.

General Magnus Malan, the Defence Minister, has said: "Landmines planted on public roads are not aimed at any specific target but at all members of the public. After deliberation, the Government will act in order to fight this evil."

A special South African force is already operating from the Stockport border post on the Botswana frontier, close to where the latest mine blast occurred. A military spokesman at nearby Ellisras said: "Although there are signs that it was planted by a single person, we are taking no chances and a thorough search has been launched over a wide area."

In Gabarone, the Botswana Government denied that it allowed ANC guerrillas to operate from its territory.

A statement said: "Botswana categorically rejects any suggestion that security forces here have co-operated with individuals engaged in operations against neighbouring states."



Mrs Imelda Marcos distributing election campaign T-shirts yesterday at an election rally for her husband, the President of the Philippines, at Taytay just east of Manila.



Mrs Imelda Marcos distributing election campaign T-shirts yesterday at an election rally for her husband, the President of the Philippines, at Taytay just east of Manila.

Aquino pledges action on debt

From Paul Routledge, Manila

An opposition victory in the Philippines presidential election next month will lead to a renegotiation of the country's huge foreign debt, the President Aquino, said yesterday.

In her first major pronouncement on the economy, the leading opposition candidate told a packed meeting of businessmen in Manila: "Beyond a certain point, respect for market forces must yield to the demands of conscience."

She said that if President Marcos is ousted in the February 7 poll: "We shall vigorously seek to renegotiate the terms of our foreign debt."

"Our economy cannot possibly endure, nor our people long accept, a situation where nearly half of our export earnings must go to interest payments alone, and for loans that have benefited only a favoured few."

There is conflict about just how much Aquino's most indebted nation actually owes. Mrs Aquino said yesterday that it could be US\$26 billion (£18 billion) or \$30 billion if not more. The Government insists it was just over \$25.5 billion at the end of September.

Whatever the true figure, the future course of Filipino international finance policy is likely to become more of an election issue. President Marcos has dismissed his rivals as "obviously too weak to cope with our security and economic problems".

However, it was a rather different and tougher Mrs Aquino who took the rostrum at a hotel in the capital's business district yesterday, spurning the title Mother of the Nation.

"I am campaigning to be president of our country, it is in that capacity I shall serve. And as president, I shall lead. If elected, I will remain a mother to my children, but I intend to be chief executive of this nation," she said.

US radio woos Europe again

From Michael Binyon, Washington

Jazz, pop music, news, comment and scenes from the everyday life of ordinary Americans: this is the fare of Washington's new 24-hour radio service that began broadcasting yesterday on medium wave in an effort to counter the negative view of the United States and correct anti-American "misconceptions" in France and West Germany.

Transmissions, which began on a limited basis over cable in October, will now be easily audible for 10 hours a day on the more popular wave band in the Munich region.

The broadcasts, in English, will not be heard yet in Britain. They are part of an effort to explain US policy and attitudes at a time when Moscow is making propaganda inroads among America's European allies.

"VOA-Europe will help correct the information deficit about the US... among millions of young people who have grown up since World War II, the Marshall Plan and the establishment of NATO," Mr

Charles Wick, director of the US Information Agency that controls VOA, said in the autumn. "They are deeply interested in the US but have misconceptions about our country and people."

Mr Wick, a leading conservative and close friend of President Reagan who has transformed VOA into a more openly partisan and combative service, added: "Some may not understand how fully we share culture, values, traditions and a commitment to the common defence of freedom."

The new service has also started in Paris on FM radio. It will be expanded later, carrying programmes in German, French, Italian and Spanish.

Fueled by increasing concern here at the huge demonstrations in Europe against US defence and foreign policies in recent years, the Reagan Administration has authorized the Voice of America, after a 25-year break, to resume direct broadcasts to Western Europe.

Attempt to achieve self-reliance

Boost for Canberra's armoury

The only successful invasion of Australia by Britain in 1788. No other nation appears to have entertained the idea since Japan bombed Darwin in 1942 and then dismissed it as too difficult. But the trauma of that experience has figured in Australian strategic planning ever since.

The war-weaned Canberra once and for all from the notion that Britain was its first line of defence. That role in Australian consciousness passed to the US for an era that embraced the Vietnam War and lasted until a watershed 1976 White Paper pointed the way to an Australian commitment to Anzus and other regional alliances but ultimately self-reliant.

The first major re-examination of defence priorities since 1976 was started last year by Mr Paul Dibb of the Strategic and Defence Studies Centre at the Australian National University and is expected to be completed by June. The timing was unrelated to the Anzus troubles, but it was perhaps fortuitous.

A Defence Department

official says: "The logistics of invading Australia are of course intimidating. But so they are of defending it. We have more than 17,600 miles of coastline, limited technical resources and a small population."

To guard against the perhaps improbable eventuality of armed aggression, key decisions have already been taken which add up to the two costliest peacetime defence projects ever mounted in Australia's defence.

Considerable though these projects are, a crucial element in Australian strategic planning may lie with another concept, one not yet fully developed but with the potential to plug an enormous gap in defence capability - surveillance of the vast northern coastline.

An experimental over-the-horizon radar system known as Jindalee has been undergoing trials at Alice Springs in central Australia for several years. Developed by local scientists on initial US expertise, the experimental stage is said by Canberra officials to have been extremely successful and Mr Beazley last month announced that Jindalee would be turned over to the Defence Force and put into operation this year.

The system works by bouncing radio waves off the ionosphere, about 100 miles up, and back on to incoming air and sea traffic which is identified by echoes at a mainland receiving station.

Officials describe Jindalee as "a unique Australian asset" and maintain that because of its location it picks up a clearer signal than comparable US or Soviet systems in the Northern Hemisphere.

Jindalee provides a wide area of over-the-horizon surveillance but there is still a need for back-up, for Avac aircraft to follow up signals from the system. The Defence Department last month invited submissions in what will be yet another lucrative contract, which is unlikely to be won by a British company.

A Canberra strategist says: "It was always our problem knowing what was out there. The fact is we didn't. Before Jindalee this place was wide open."

Concluded

PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE

Kenya: Otieno Mak'Onyango

By Caroline Moorehead

Otieno Mak'Onyango, former Assistant Managing Editor of *The Sunday Standard*, a leading Kenyan newspaper, has been in detention since August 17, 1982, on suspicion that he was involved in the unsuccessful coup by members of the Kenya Air Force.

Initially he was accused of treason, but the charges against him were eventually dropped and he was released - only to be rearrested immediately and held under the Preservation of Public Security Act (Section 83) which allows people to be detained indefinitely without charge or trial. Many people in Kenya believe that he owes his continuing imprisonment to a mistake of identity, and that he has been confused with Patrick Mak'Onyango, a public relations officer with the Voice of Kenya, who went to Uganda shortly after the attempted coup. Embarrassment over their mistake, it is said, may now be preventing the authorities from ordering his release.

Conditions for political detainees in Kenya are more severe than for other prisoners. Mr Mak'Onyango is allowed only one visit a year.

● Gyorky Krasso, the Hungarian economist, one of *The Times* 12 prisoners of conscience of 1985 who are now free, is not, as stated last week, living in exile, but is in Britain on a temporary passport to be with his seriously ill brother.

Seven die in fights at Indian festival

Delhi (AFP Reuter) - At least seven people have been killed and several injured in clashes at a kite-flying festival in the west Indian city of Ahmedabad.

Police fired tear gas and guns to quell the mobs, which had also set fire to shops and vehicles, the Press Trust of India (PTI) said.

The city administration imposed a curfew in the old district. The cause of the clashes was not known.

The city last year was the scene of Hindu-Muslim confrontation and violence between higher and lower caste Hindus over a government policy allowing quotas for the lower caste in jobs and education.

In Punjab, gunmen wounded two shopkeepers in the Sikh holy city of Amritsar yesterday after three others were shot in mounting violence. PTI said the shopkeepers

were injured when suspected extremists opened fire in the old quarter of the city near the Golden Temple, the Sikhs' holiest shrine.

In an earlier incident, gunmen opened fire and wounded three people in the morning at a bus station in Sangrur district.

Hundreds of members of the militant All India Sikh Students Federation meanwhile blocked traffic in Amritsar and Jalandhar yesterday in protest against the arrest of a Sikh leader in neighbouring Haryana state last week. PTI said.

Police in Jalandhar forced some 400 AISSF supporters to free four buses from Haryana and one from Delhi.

The latest attacks came as Punjab's ruling Akali Dal party urged the Chief Minister, Mr Surjit Singh Barnala, to use a firm hand against Sikh hardliners when it met yesterday.

Paris mission to Poland

Paris (Reuter) - A French minister is to visit Poland this week for the first time since the imposition of martial law in December 1981, the French government announced yesterday.

The 36-hour visit to Warsaw by the Secretary of State, M Jean-Michel Baylet, follows a controversial meeting in Paris last month between President

Mitterrand and the Polish leader, General Jaruzelski.

M Baylet, who will arrive in Warsaw tomorrow evening, will lead the French side at the first meeting since 1981 of a Franco-Polish intergovernmental commission on economic co-operation. French sources said they might also use his visit to meet Poles outside the Government, such as Church leaders.

AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE Part 2

The biggest involves the replacement of the Mirage 1110-D in air defence and tactical support squadrons by the most advanced and expensive American aircraft, the F-18 Hornet. The first two Hornets were made in the US, while the remaining 73 are being manufactured and assembled here in a project involving 17 Australian companies.

In August Mr Kim Beazley, the fast-rising young Defence Minister, announced the decision to proceed with a second major defence programme, the construction of five submarines of an estimated cost of around \$A2,600 million (£1,250 million) by a

Current defence spending is 2.9 per cent of GDP, compared with 5 per cent in the US and more than 5 per cent in Britain. The following is a table on defence expenditure for four years:

	Aus\$	% of GDP	% increase on previous year in real terms
1975	1,550m	2.4	0.4
1980	3,659m	2.6	2.0
1984	5,543m	2.8	5.0
1985	6,232m	2.9	7.0

Lagos envoy here to forge ties

The Nigerian Foreign Minister, Professor Bolaji Ajakaiye, arrives in Britain today to discuss the delicate political and economic relations between Britain and its biggest trading partner in black Africa. (Reuter reports from London).

Nigeria wants Mr Dikko extradited and has also raised the case of a former Nigerian Army major jailed for his part in the kidnap plot.

Britain is pressing for a restoration of full diplomatic relations: each country withdrew its high commissioner over the kidnap attempt.

The says that the Dikko extradition request cannot be settled until after an appeal by the former minister against a British decision refusing him political asylum. On the jailed major, it says it cannot interfere with the process of law.

British officials say that the talks will cover the full range of bilateral issues, but economic issues will be prominent.

Nigeria, plagued by low oil prices and debts accrued during an oil boom, wants to limit loan repayments on foreign debts of more than \$8 billion (£5.3 billion) to 30 per cent of its foreign earnings.

Many creditors are in Britain, which has investments worth about £2 billion in Nigeria and is its leading supplier of goods and services.

While in London, Professor Akinyemi will talk at the Bank of England and at the Treasury. He will also meet the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, Mr Leon Brittan.

In other developments, the Nigerian Financial Minister, Dr Kalu Kalu, has scaled down sharply the estimated amount of short-term debt claimed by trade partners that would be accepted as genuine.

Packed carriages signal Japan's Year of Tiger

From David Watts, Tokyo

With a flurry of bows, Japan went back to work yesterday after an extended New Year holiday. Many firms gave their employees nine days off to celebrate the arrival of the Year of the Tiger, and they came streaming back into Tokyo until early yesterday.

A record number, 270,000, saw in the New Year abroad, but most had to be content with their hometowns. Returning to Tokyo, they paid the price for their enjoyment: trains packed, even by Japanese standards, at up to 2 1/2 times their capacity.

The office girls come to work in their best and brightest kimonos. Tokyo trains and streets are dotted with the bright reds, greens and silvers of kimono, contrasting with the grey overcoats of male office workers intent on rushing across the city from one company to another.

Though little business is done, failure to greet all one's clients, potential clients, superiors and colleagues at the New Year season would mean a very thin year ahead indeed.

The captains of industry fear that the New Year may live up to its bad reputation. Both the First World War and the Korean War began in Years of the Tiger.

The Japanese economy is facing one of its bleakest years for some time, with the threat of protectionism in America and exports to China stalled. By "bleak", the economists mean growth of 4 per cent, something in which most Western countries would delight.

Witch lifts a gloomy spell for Italians

Rome (AFP) - The Befana, a friendly witch who fills the well-polished shoes of good children with sweets at Epiphany, returned to Italy yesterday after the Government restored the holiday, which was scrapped with six others eight years ago.

The Befana, who flies around on a broomstick, was everywhere at once in Rome on Sunday, handing out sweets.

The most dramatic appearance was when a Befana flew on her broomstick from the top of the Colosseum.

The Befana dates back hundreds of years. In the last century, groups of children, one dressed as the Befana and other singing and blowing trumpets, paraded through the streets, knocking on doors for sweets and trinkets.

Naughty children traditionally find lumps of coal in their shoes. But these are also welcome, as they are made of black sugar.

Ministers to appear at spy hearing

Oslo (Reuter) - Mr Sveinn Stray, the Norwegian Foreign Minister and Mr Anders Sjaastad, the Defence Minister are to be questioned in the Supreme Court during the re-examination of evidence presented in the trial last year that led to a 20-year jail term for the Norwegian KGB spy, Arne Treholt.

Lawyers representing Treholt, who plans to appeal against the sentence, have requested a full re-examination of evidence.

At yesterday hearing, defence lawyers focused on an envelope which secret police said during the trial contained \$50,000 (£35,000) paid by the KGB to Treholt, a former junior government minister and senior diplomat.

Treholt was convicted in June 1985 for having passed to Soviet agents top-secret information on Nato and Norwegian defence strategy and troop strength.

Shcharansky back in jail

Jerusalem (Reuter) - The Soviet Jewish dissident Mr Anatoly Shcharansky, has been sentenced to a new six-month term in the jail of a Soviet labour camp, his wife said yesterday.

Mr Shcharansky, aged 38, was sentenced in 1977 to three years in prison and 10 years in a labour camp on charges of spying for the United States.

His wife Avital, who lives in Israel, said she has recently heard from relatives in Moscow that her husband was sentenced in October to a new prison term in the Ural Mountains labour camp.

She has been told that the sentence was imposed because Mr Shcharansky went on a hunger strike to protest at not receiving his mail.

Uganda groups cling to power

From Charles Harrison, Nairobi

Three weeks after the signing of a peace agreement designed to bring back unity to Uganda, the country remains divided into zones controlled by power groups.

Few provisions of the agreement have been implemented, and there is no sign of accord between the Military Council set up by the soldiers who staged a coup last July and the guerrillas of the National Resistance Army who control a large area of the south-west of the country.

The Uganda Freedom Movement, one of the smaller guerrilla groups operating before the coup, has its own area south of Kampala. Here armed members of the Uganda Army are barred, and civilians have escaped the killings and harassment widespread in other areas near Kampala.

Fighting between the Uganda Army and the NRA has stopped, but each maintains armed readiness. The NRA controls main roads west of Kampala, cutting links with land-locked Rwanda and Burundi, and the NRA refuses to repatriate Uganda Army soldiers captured in its area.

The agreement signed in Nairobi on December 17 after months of negotiation provides for the NRA to take half of the seats on the Military Council, with its leader, Mr Yoweri Museveni, becoming its deputy chairman.

Talks on missing GIs open in Hanoi

Hanoi (Reuter) - American and Vietnamese officials met for three hours yesterday at the highest level since the end of the war between the two nations for talks on hundreds of missing US servicemen.

The US assistant Secretary of Defence, Mr Richard Armitage, said there had been "in-depth discussions of all aspects... to include how we might accelerate progress toward resolution of this issue."

Mr Armitage, head of a seven-member delegation that included the assistant Secretary of State, Mr Paul Wolfowitz, said that another meeting will be held today, this time with the Foreign Minister, Mr Nguyen Co Thach.

The deputy Foreign Minister, Mr Hoang Bich Son, led the Vietnamese side at yesterday's talks. The Americans return to Bangkok today after a 24-hour visit.

Vietnamese officials, who asked not to be identified, said that the Americans yesterday rejected proposals for visits to the site of a crashed US bomber and also to a villa that Hanoi had offered to house a permanent US liaison office.

Vietnam said earlier that it would return human remains presumed to be those of Americans. It had returned 39 bodies in 1985, making a total of 123 since 1975.

The US says that 1,797 American servicemen went missing in Vietnam or off its coast during the war.

Western diplomats said that Hanoi hoped that faster accounting of the missing would lead to renewed diplomatic relations, and also hoped for an end to an economic embargo by the US and other countries who have demanded that Vietnam withdraw its troops from Cambodia.

Co-operation on the issue of missing Americans quickened in August when Vietnam said it would solve the matter unilaterally within two years. But Vietnamese leaders emphasized that a reciprocal gesture from Washington, such as the current visit, would be the key to the fullest possible accounting.

The State Department spokesman, Mr Charles Redman, said in Washington last week that the current talks would deal only with the issue of missing Americans.

The US lists 2,441 Americans missing in all of south East Asia as a result of the Indo-China conflict.

Kasparov waits for ruling on rematch

By Raymond Keene

The world chess champion, Gary Kasparov, has denied reports that on Sunday he refused publicly to play the revenge match against Anatoly Karpov stipulated by the world chess federation, Fide.

The match has been set by Fide to start on February 10, and rival bids to stage the event have come from London and Leningrad.

Although Kasparov has stated repeatedly that the interval of three months between the previous match and the return is too small, he said yesterday morning on the telephone from Moscow that he has not yet refused to play and is still waiting for a ruling by the Soviet chess federation.

The controversial president of Fide, Mr Florencio Campomanes, of the Philippines, is flying to Moscow today apparently to try to resolve the looming crisis.

Mr Campomanes has said that he will announce the venue for the world title match by January 13.

Cancellation of this match would be seen as a severe blow to the reputation of Mr Campomanes. Indication from the Fide headquarters in Lucerne point to the strong possibility that he will try to strip Kasparov of his world title this week if he does not confirm his willingness to contest the match.

Ministers to appear at spy hearing

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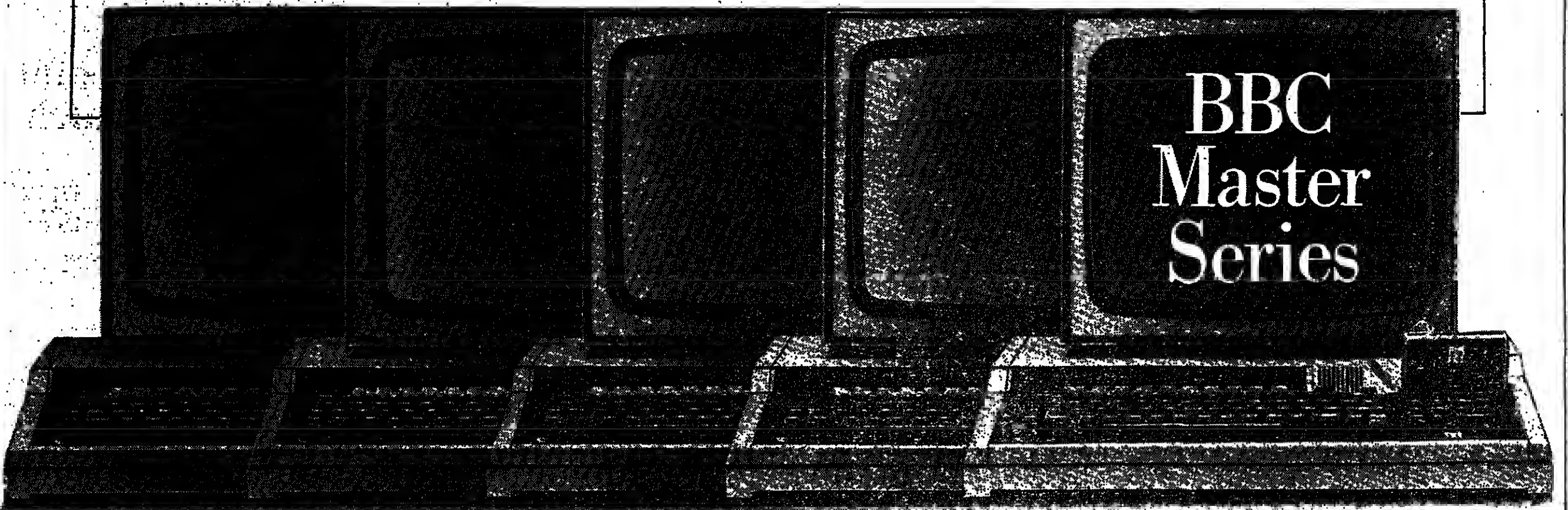
Treholt was convicted in June 1985 for having passed to Soviet agents top-secret information on Nato and Norwegian defence strategy and troop strength.



Otieno Mak'Onyango: bad health.

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The first ever fully compatible micro series.



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The chorus steps from stage to screen



Best feet forward: Sir Richard Attenborough, the director, lines up with the cast of the film, which took 10 years to get to the screen; 4,000 dancers auditioned for 17 jobs

They said the film of *A Chorus Line*, which opens in London this week, was unmakeable. Richard Attenborough did not agree...

Sir Richard Attenborough proudly considered his latest film "As a challenge - absolutely impossible - to resist. As a cinematic task - by far the most difficult thing I have ever done as a director. Certainly the most complex and subtle. In every way, in the camera work and the editing, it is the most sophisticated film I have ever made."

As one of the modern cinema's notable halleluiah directors of difficult projects, Attenborough had no illusions that making a film of Broadway's longest running show, *A Chorus Line*, was a formidable undertaking. It had scared off other talented men. It was widely regarded as the show that could not be filmed - too fragile a bubble to withstand the journey out of the theatre.

"A man would be a fool to think it was a pushover", Attenborough told me. "I knew it would be demanding. I saw the show six or eight times and pondered for several months before I said OK."

Attenborough's OK was the turning point in the long-running saga of *A Chorus Line's* translation to the screen. It has taken more than 10 years - and the road has been littered with dashed hopes, torn-up scripts and scrapped business deals.

The play opened off Broadway at the small Public Theatre, in downtown Manhattan, on May 21 1975, before transferring to the Shubert on Broadway in October. The news that this was a remarkable piece of theatre was out even before the critical acclaim, and offers for the film rights were made long before the show went to Broadway.

It became the prize in a protracted and frustrated tug-of-war between the New York and Hollywood factions of showbusiness. It was a

hot dramatic property with profound creative problems for a film maker. A number of directors came and saw and, deciding they had no chance of coquering, went away. Over the years, while all the arguing was going on, *A Chorus Line* became an institution.

The central figures in getting it on to celluloid were the canny Broadway producers Cy Feuer and Ernest Martin, who had made the successful film *Cabaret*. They offered Joseph Papp, the show's producer, \$150,000 for the film rights. Then Columbia Pictures stepped in with \$400,000.

With critics and audiences plainly in love with the show, the offers were up to \$3 million before it even transferred to Broadway. Within six months Universal Pictures were the front runners with an offer of \$5.5 million, plus a promise that the film would not be released for five years.

But the project ran into trouble from the start. The agents moved in. A lot of cigars were to be chomped. Many people wanted a slice of the film money: Michael Bennett, the originator of the show; Joseph Papp, the producer; James Kirkwood and Nicholas Dante who wrote it; Marvin Hamlisch, who composed the music; Edward Kleban, who wrote the songs; and Bob Avian the choreographer.

The agents negotiated royalties of 20 per cent of the film's gross over \$30 million. This was double the going Hollywood rate and the expectations this deal raised were to cast a long shadow over future negotiations. And in the mean time there were other difficulties. Michael Bennett was hired by Universal to direct the picture. But he and Hollywood never danced in step.

"I missed New York. I missed the theatre, and I was naive about how California operates. It's about business first rather than the work first."

There is usually tension when film and theatre, west coast and east coast, meet to do business. There is also the Hollywood ganglion that Michael Bennett so disliked. John Boorman, another director who knows Hollywood's power structure, writes in his book *The Emerald Forest Diary*: "Hollywood is run by

THE FIVE WHO DIDN'T MAKE IT



Michael Bennett Mike Nichols Sidney Lumet Joel Schumacher and Allan Carr



Success: Richard Attenborough with stars Michael Douglas and Alyson Lee

a small group of people who are in adversary stances yet mostly interchangeable: eight or nine studio heads, another 40-odd executives, perhaps 60 top agents, a dozen lawyers, as many business managers, 100 active producers.

With the disillusioned Michael Bennett gone, Universal brought in another big-name director, Mike Nichols (*Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*, *The Graduate*, *Catch-22*, among others). He worked on the project for six months in 1978. But the fundamental creative problem seemed insuperable. *A Chorus Line* is almost plotless, an audition on a bare stage. Its dramatic tension and magic lie in the particular and charged atmosphere of a theatre.

Nichols had his doubts about the creative feasibility from the start. Universal did not like the screenplay and in any case, would not give him the \$16 million budget he wanted. He quit. Universal next hired another heavyweight, Sidney Lumet,

who had recently directed *Equus* and *The Wiz*. The relationship lasted only a few months. So the studio turned to Joel Schumacher, who had written *The Wiz*, and directed the incredible *Shining Woman*. He worked in partnership with Allan Carr who had produced the successful John Travolta film *Grease*.

Carr wanted Travolta to star in *A Chorus Line*. But the Carr-Schumacher partnership foundered. Schumacher had concluded he was on a bidding to nothing. "If it failed it would be a glaring failure on only my second movie. I really thought I could do it at first, but I was innocent and crazy."

Finally, in 1980, Universal got rid of its troublesome property, selling the rights for \$7.5 million to the Germany-based PolyGram group. The company wanted Michael Bennett to direct. He debated, but

decided he would have been "done in emotionally" by having to audition people in the show he knew well.

The next idea was that *A Chorus Line* should be a star vehicle with John Travolta and Mikhail Baryshnikov. But they wanted more money than PolyGram would pay - and PolyGram balked at the overall budget.

By now it was 1982. Back on Broadway the stage show company was content to see the various contenders trying and failing. They felt the screen version would damage the show financially.

PolyGram tried and failed to agree a new deal with Universal (who still wanted to distribute the film). By now PolyGram had spent \$3.5 million. But in the spring of 1982 Messrs Feuer and Martin, the producers who had been the original bidders in 1975, re-emerged and offered to make the film and raise the money, providing PolyGram

would end the distribution agreement with Universal so that Feuer and Martin could make their own arrangement. Done, said PolyGram. The next step was a screen-play. It was written by Arnold Schulman, who had done *Goodbye Columbus*. Embassy Productions liked it, agreed to distribute the film, and put up \$11.5 million. PolyGram's \$8.5 million was still in the kitty, to be repaid from the profits. Embassy insisted on a director with an international reputation. Enter Attenborough.

He and the two producers had the same agent. Attenborough flew to New York and saw the show. At that time he was fresh from his triumph with the epic *Gandhi*, his famous obsession, which had won eight Academy Awards, including Oscars for best director and best picture. Some eyebrows were raised at the idea of an Englishman having a go at a Broadway show, an essentially American art form. But Attenborough had demonstrated his daring, persistence and flair with *Gandhi* and with his successful *Oh! What A Lovely War*.

"When I agreed to do *A Chorus Line*, I took another look at *Oh! What A Lovely War*. I had not seen it for 10 years. I could see that I had been self-conscious and slow. I was trying to demonstrate that it was possible to turn a piece of theatre into a film by using cinematic tricks. It persuaded me that this would be the wrong path to take with *A Chorus Line*. I had great respect for Bennett's work. I honour him." It was obvious that the film would have to remain within the theatre, that trips outside had to be sparingly used. Its theatrical ambience was everything.

Jeffrey Hornaday, the young, scruffy and outstanding choreographer who created the dances in *Flashdance*, was signed on and he and Attenborough roughed out their ideas over lunch at Sardi's, a popular New York theatre restaurant. In February 1984, Attenborough started casting, whittling down 4,000 aspirants in auditions in New York and Los Angeles. He became a real-life *Zach* - the character in *A Chorus Line* who resides over the "cattle call" of hopeful young Broadway dancers,

the gypsies whose hopes and humiliation are the stuff of the play. "The final selections were profoundly distressing. We were looking at real talent and having to say no. These gypsies are unique. They have to be able to sing, dance and act and stay in top condition for the auditions on which they pin their hopes. And, like athletes, they do not last long. One of the girls who made it into the final 17 in the film had not had a major job in 15 months, and she has not worked much since. She works in a bar at night and goes to dance classes in the day, making herself available for auditions."

Electronic instruments and Moog synthesizers were introduced to update the original score, and two new songs were added. At last, shooting of the \$25 million film started at the Mark Hellinger Theatre in New York in October 1984.

Attenborough said: "I know I was a Limey on Broadway, but I never for a moment felt unwelcome. The theatre was like a club, with friends dropping in all the time to watch. The atmosphere was wonderful. The dancers were like my children and I still feel a great paternal pride in them."

Attenborough admits he is wounded by the attacks of some of the American critics. *The New York Times* critic wrote: "They said *A Chorus Line* couldn't be done - and they were right!"

Attenborough said: "I'm astonished at the degree of viciousness of one or two of them, and we were unlucky in the way some nasty early reviews were reported in Britain. We've had a lot of terrific reviews, too, and Clive Barnes said it was the best dance film and movie musical for years. He was amazed by some of the ill-judged comments."

"It has had a long journey, but it is worth it. On the night it opened in New York, Joseph Papp introduced himself to me and said 'you've captured the spirit of the show. It will make Michael Bennett as happy as it made me'."

Trevor Fishlock
A Chorus Line opens at the Odeon, Leicester Square, on Friday.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 842)

ACROSS
1 Support (4,2)
5 Flawing garment (5)
8 Blow (5)
9 Evident (7)
11 Unexceptional (8)
13 Soothing ointment (4)
15 Fair slide (6,7)
17 Period (4)
18 Large plum (8)
21 Appendices (7)
22 Wallow (5)
23 Snatch (4)
24 Large kingdom (6)
DOWN
2 Avert (5)
3 Gear (3)
4 Daily (13)
5 Speak angrily (4)
6 Floatable (7)
7 Heights fear (10)
10 Forward roll (10)
12 Christmas (4)
14 Curved (4)
16 Clean clothes (7)
19 Wanderer (5)
20 Round handle (4)
22 Knock (3)

SOLUTION TO No 841
ACROSS: 1 Seal 4 Medium 8 Later 9 Similar 10 Garrison 11 Span
13 Embrocation 17 Airt 18 Appraise 21 Bacilli 22 Indra 23 Tresson
24 Gekko
DOWN: 1 Silage 2 After 3 Derriere 4 Misconception 5 Dime
6 Calypso 7 Marine 12 Stiering 14 Miracle 15 Gambit 16 Pedalo
19 Indie 20 Alias

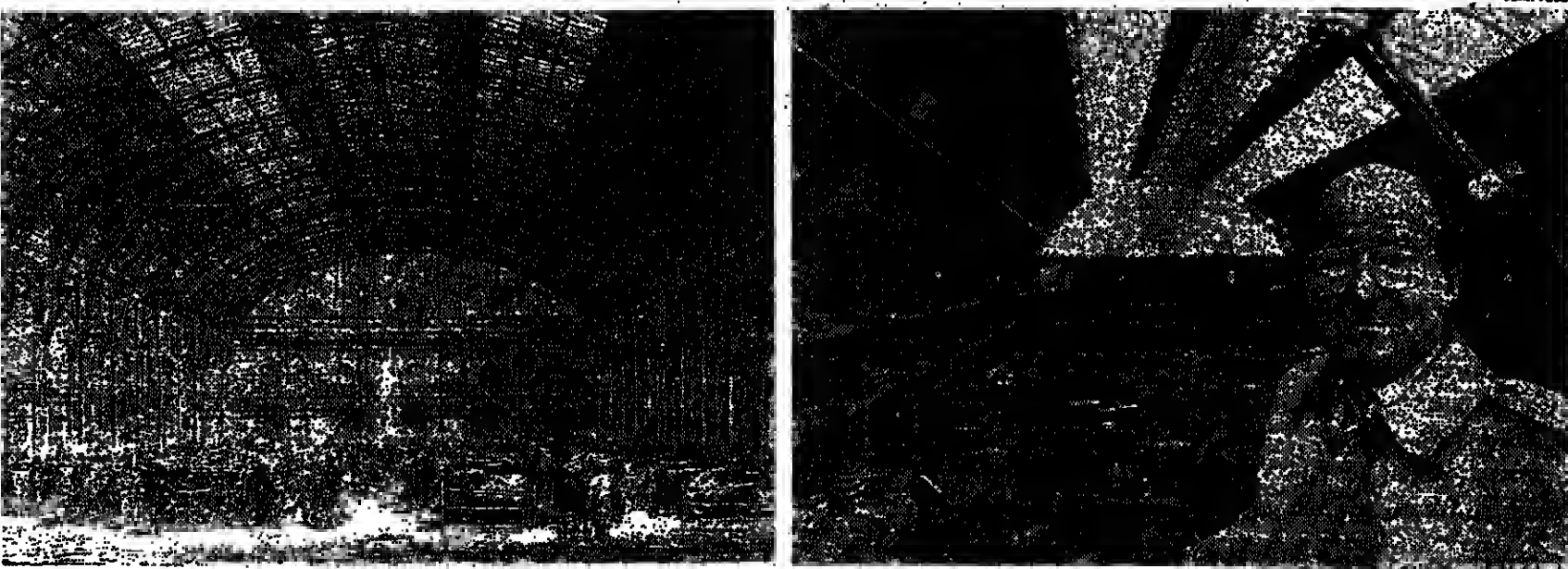
Cattle market with designs on marketing

A retired shopfitter has turned the derelict Royal Agricultural Hall into a design centre that will enhance the image of British business

This year British business will have no excuse for a dreary image. The revamped Royal Agricultural Hall in Islington, north London opens in March as the Business Design Centre - the first of its kind in Britain and a blueprint for other historic but neglected sites.

The Aggie, as it is known locally, had a colourful past before 1939 when the Post Office took it over as a sorting office. Built as a cattle market in 1861 it has housed circuses, amusements, a theatre, an embassy ball, Crufts and bull-fighting for which two men and seven Spanish matadors were prosecuted in March, 1870. A thriller called *Wobble to Death* by Peter Lovesey was based on one of the six-day walking races held round and round the interior of the hall. In the race of 1878, Corky and "Blower" Brown survived the course - Corky had such a commanding lead that he retired in change his clothes for the last lap. Prize fighting was described as "humane" compared with these tests of endurance.

It has been derelict since the early 1970s. Various proposals for its resurrection were dropped in the tide of council and local opinion and drifted away like Pook sticks. Suggestions included pulling it down to build a housing estate, turning it into a Dickensian version of Disney world, re-modelling it as a swimming bath or an indoor sports centre. Largely because of lack of



Past glories: The Agricultural Hall in 1861 and Sam Morris, the man whose vision helped restore it

money, and partly because of a small but vociferous group of local residents, all the ideas were shelved. Then nearly four years ago a local shopfitter, Sam Morris, started looking for a "retirement project" and lighted on the Aggie as a challenging alternative in being grassed out on the bowling green.

The moment he walked into the vast skeletal cavern that looked like a cross between Jonah's whale and a Victorian railway station, he saw it as a prestige trade centre which would vie with the most successful in America.

No one else had his vision. He could not find a bank to lend the £7.4 million he needed to top up the urban development grant of £2.85 million. He found a speculative investor, borrowed on the value of properties belonging to his own business of 30 years' standing and persuaded the American company Bay West to come in as a minority partner. Bay West are the backers of

the largest trade centre in the United States. Showplace Square, in San Francisco - 1.5 million square feet occupied by 400 design-based tenants who turn over more than \$350 million a year. Sam Morris has used their experience, plus his visual and shop-fitting expertise, in gut and transform the 44-acre site into the Victorian arched roof into a three-tier walkway of showrooms round a central exhibition area.

It will, he promises, house the best of business design - "a sort of Brent Cross for businessmen", he calls it. If one-stop shopping is the intention, he is nearly half way there before the restored iron balustrading (originally made by Heavydies of Derby) is in place. Already a fifth of the showroom space is booked, with a further fifth reserved.

Future tenants include Thorn EMI, the Design Council, Ferrings, Silent Gliss, several

office furniture manufacturers, a computer company, business equipment suppliers and specialists in lighting, carpets, glass and shelving.

"If you ask why this country is so slow getting on the road, the answer lies with management", says Morris. "Too many of them lack inspiration and the missing link is the designer."

British designers lead the world abroad but not here. What they need is a market place where everyone can see what they have to offer. Designers, architects, buyers, business heads will be able to compare equipment, furnishings, furniture, communications systems - all under one roof.

"It will also be a centre for conferences and exhibitions and we want colleges of art and design to exhibit here too - universities and students are bad at marketing themselves. Showing their designs here will bring them into focus and teach them how to sell."

His enthusiasm is infectious. After one visit, John Butcher, Minister for Trade and Industry, was already pushing the idea one step further. "It struck me that this very imaginative approach could be useful in the provinces, too", he says.

He sees it as "a magnificent example of 19th-century precision engineering being converted in the needs of the 21st century."

"I am already talking to one or two enlightened people in the Midlands who see such centres as a way of using design to get their companies into growth areas."

public entertainment, it seems churlish to limit the enjoyment of such a spectacular conversion.

"I do think the building should be open to the public 40 per cent of the time", says Mary Cosh, vice-chairman of the Islington Society. "At the turn of the century people came up from the country, attended a show at the Hall, dined at the Angel and finished the evening at Collins Music Hall."

One link that will be kept is the local name for the hall. Above the weighty title Business Design Centre will be the pet name Aggie.

"We couldn't call it the Royal Agricultural Hall", explains Sam Morris. "People always confuse it with the Royal Horticultural Hall in Westminster."

They should know by now that design is a much more serious business than a lot of frills and flowers.

Beryl Downing

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THE ARTS

Galleries

Contradictory responses to Japanese good taste

Reconstructions
Museum of Modern
Art, Oxford

Toki
Barbican

During the last few years we seem to have been devoting an amazing amount of time and attention to trying to make sense of the Japanese. Our kind of sense, of course, their kind of sense clearly exists, and clearly they are reasonably content with it. But the Victoria and Albert's *Japan Style* show in 1980, the Royal Academy's *Great Japan Exhibition* in 1982 (with all its attendant events) and a long succession of minor manifestations along the same lines all seem to indicate a nagging need on our part to understand.

We may be long past the stage of forcing any and all orientals into an "inscrutable" stereotype, but with the Japanese at least the mystery seems to remain intact, and deeply worrying to us. Hence, no doubt, the latest outbreak of contact-making, embodied in three shows at the Oxford Museum of Modern Art (until February 9) and two major shows, plus a scattering of side-events, at the Barbican Centre (until January 26).

A lot of the trouble resides in the tricky concept of Japanese taste. Here again we have a stereotypical view of history, sharpened by the generalized all-purpose guilt of the western world over Hiroshima and Nagasaki. We accept - perhaps too readily - that the taste of isolated Japan before western intrusion was immaculate and all things, and when we find anything of dubious value subsequently, blame ourselves as insensitive colonialist powers for corrupting the natives.

These considerations are in a large measure what the various current exhibitions are all about. The shows at the Barbican, under the general title of Toki, concern themselves specifically with the role of tradition in Japan today, while Oxford takes the opposite tack: under the general title Reconstructions we look at Avant-

Garde Art in Japan 1945-1965, Dada in Japan 1920-1970 and the work of four modern photographers reflecting in various ways on the postwar Japanese scene. Our responses in both cases are likely to be suspicious and contradictory. Or at least if we have any sense they should be.

For example, if we prefer the Barbican's traditional *Nihonga* painting, is it perhaps partly because we feel unconsciously that the natives should know their place and stay on the reservation? Or if we respond more immediately to the avant-garde, is it because they have chosen to adopt our language of western art instead of sticking to their own? When we remember the now unmentionable fame of the "clever little Japs" for being able to imitate anything at half the cost, are we more superior towards their lack of originality, or terrified at the competition?

In the event, if we prefer the avant-garde art of Oxford, it has much more to do with originality than familiarity. It might not at first seem so, for art not painters like Taro Okamoto, Hiroshi Nakamura and On Kawara working very much along the same lines as our western Neo-Expressionists and Transavantgarde? But then we take on board the dates of characteristic works.

Okamoto's *Law of the Jungle*, with its zipped and fanged red shark-like creature cutting through a green ocean of humanoid and feline figures, was painted in 1950. Nakamura's *Revolutionary Metropolis*, with its upsurge of menacing animals, is from 1959. Kawara's *Black Soldier*, with its irregular canvas and its astonishing forced perspective (up from under the feet), dates from 1955. At that time really no one in the West was painting like that; now, it seems, virtually everyone is.

in a profusion worthy of Louis Bourgeois.

But the main thrust of Japanese art at that time - no doubt given added impetus by violent reactions to the Bomb and its aftermath - seems to have been quite independent of contemporary western orthodoxy, finding its influences, if any, as far afield as the Mexican revolutionary muralists of the Thirties, and to have drawn its force from the direct expression of powerful emotions in a directly figurative way.

That, at least, for the growing-point in Japanese painting. But, as the Barbican's *Nihonga* show makes clear, that was by no means all that was (and is) going on. Tradition also is strong: tradition, that is, virtually uninterpreted in the light of modern experience. The other day the director of the Barbican Gallery was being interrogated on radio, and accused of bringing the Japanese equivalent of Green Park-railings art to London. He argued quite persuasively that this was not so, that this kind of easy-to-take art, traditional or commercial or both, did represent something important and vital in today's Japanese culture, whether we liked it or not.

In a way, though, we might like it too much: we would certainly like it more if we were not seeing it in a gallery but, say, decorating the walls of a motel. In such a context we would probably appreciate its quietness, its tastefulness, its technical accomplishment. Though even there we might balk at some examples of straight kitsch, like Tetsuji Ohshima's *Madonna in the Rose Vine*, and ask ourselves if there was not something too cute for comfort in an image like Yuki Ogura's *Listen Well*, which shows a traditionally dressed and posed Japanese lady with a transistor radio (badly drawn, incidentally).

Fortunately, anyone tiring of too many misty pastel-coloured landscapes and greetings-card depictions of pretty ladies in kimono at the Barbican can adjourn to the other exhibition, in the Concourse Gallery, where we are introduced to the traditional, but apparently still lively, Japanese art of *Karakuri Ningyo*, a very intricate sort of mechanical puppet show. The puppets themselves are manipulated by about half a



Quietness, tastefulness, technical accomplishment - or straight kitsch? Tetsuji Ohshima's *Madonna in the Rose Vine*

dozen string-pullers concealed inside the cart on which their stage is built, and the design of the antique examples on view, as well as of the cart hangings and other trappings, is extraordinary, its vitality showing up the wishy-washly imitations of *Nihonga*. The performances, being intermittently demonstrated on the spot, are much less accessible to Westerners, who are likely to be fascinated chiefly by their mechanics. But

at least one can get from them a pervasive atmosphere of doom and foreboding which seems to be very typically Japanese. This tradition, less palpable than the unquestioning stylistic dependence of *Nihonga*, is certainly present also in most of Oxford's avant-garde art, and survives up to date in the most memorable photographs of the *Black Sun* show. Two series, in particular, Eiko Hosoe's *The Demon Myth: Kamaitachi* (a

sort of film made entirely in stills) and Masahisa Fukase's *Crow: A Symbol* (more Hitchcock than Ted Hughes), create a nightmarish atmosphere quite at odds with the bright professionalism of Japan's famed design efficiency. There is something comforting, somehow, about the idea that even an economic miracle still has its dark side.

John Russell Taylor

Concert

Schiff/Shiokawa
Wigmore Hall

There is some virtue in playing uncomplicated music in a straightforward way, but none in making Mozart's sonatas for piano and violin sound dull. That, though, was frequently the effect of the Tokyo-born violinist Yuzuko Shiokawa's interpretations (if interpretation is not too melodramatic a word to apply to this all-too-polite playing) in the first of her four all-Mozart recitals at the Wigmore Hall.

Shiokawa is the lucky user of a remarkable violin: the Stradivarius "Emperor" once owned by Jan Kubelik. Her intonation is excellent, and in the slower passages of the four sonatas played here (K202, 303, 304 and 378) she intermittently coaxed a hoarse tone worthy of her instrument. She had no difficulty, either, in meeting the (not particularly searching) technical demands of the allegros.

But as for imaginative dynamic shading, artful phrasing, the wittily varied articulation of a theme on its second or third

hearing: for all this one listened in vain. Along with the emotional flatness came a stylistic coyness: Shiokawa, far from ornamenting freely, often omitted even those decorations suggested in standard editions of the sonatas.

Her partner Andrés Briceno - by no means the most demonstrative of pianists - sounded positively flamboyant in this company, and when the piano took the lead (as it frequently does in these surprising and unorthodox works) the music suddenly acquired much more character.

In the first movement of the E minor Sonata, K304, for instance, the sense of urgency needed to complement the development's dark and dramatic modulations came from the Hungarian only, and it was his cultured and unfailingly crisp fingerwork which caught the ear in the elegant C major allegro, K303. Schiff even gave his companion a lesson in embellishment, interpolating a restrained but telling cadenza of epigrammatic eloquence into K378's Andantino.

Richard Morrison

Jazz

Courtney Pine
ICA Theatre

It needs saying again: the new generation of British jazz musicians is responsible for the healthiest complexion the London scene has worn since the end of the Sixties, banishing the dismal sallowness of older attitudes by liberal applications of youthful energy and optimism. The crisp appearance and pleasantly purposeful air of a young man like Courtney Pine, a tenor saxophonist whose quartet appeared at the ICA last week, confirm the impression that he and his contemporaries will not go quietly into the commercial twilight that engulfed so many of their talented but less assertive predecessors.

Pine, aged 21, is a West Londoner of West Indian lineage. Heard to advantage in the recent extravaganza sponsored by Charlie Watts, his playing is unashamedly influenced by the dark, crying tone of John Coltrane. If some of his expressive devices - such as split notes, elaborate embellishments and circular breathing - come too readily to hand, then that is the pardonable fault of sheer exuberance.

His pianist, Julian Joseph, is a student at the famous Berklee College in the United States and made a strong impression, with a style reminiscent of McCoy

Tyner. Coltrane's pianist, the characteristic runs interestingly sprinkled with salt and splashed with vinegar. The rhythmic games of his lean solo in Pine's "Guidance" showed both originality and the capacity for rigorous thought.

Gary Crosby, the double bassist, got the best out of the ascending three-note figure on which the Latin-tinged "As We Would Say" was balanced. At the drums, Mark Mondasie used his confident technique to negotiate the angular contours of "Seen" but at other times allowed the beat to drag slightly - perhaps the result of trying too hard to relax.

Pine's choice of Thelonius Monk's joyous "Nutty" and Wayne Shorter's plaintive "In" displayed both his historical perspective and his nice judgement of a challenge. He has probably learnt from Wynton Marsalis the value of good presentation.

Loose Tubes topped the bill, which was selected by Julie Roberts, Working Week's gifted singer, as part of the ICA's "When You Wish Upon a Star" week. A trumpet duet between Chris Batchelor and Steve Gold over the chords of "La Bamba" provided the highlight of a typically eventful performance by this extraordinary 21-piece orchestra.

Richard Williams

Dance
The Nutcracker
Paris Opéra

Among the handful of ballets surviving from the nineteenth century, *The Nutcracker* is unique. The others that have endured, out of thousands which enjoyed some success at the time, were singled out by a combination of reasonably attractive music (although not often such that you would want to hear in a concert hall), an interesting plot, good choreography, and luck.

The Nutcracker alone is still with us for one reason only, its music. The story is negligible: Petipa worked from a trivial, sentimental adaptation by Dumas père of the bizarre Hoffmann original, and anyway was made to work by the director Vsevolozhsky to throw away his scenario for Act II so that the action effectively ends halfway through the ballet. On top of that, what we know of the original choreography suggests that it contained only two dances of note, the snowflakes ensemble and the big final duet.

If anyone except Tchaikovsky had composed it, *The Nutcracker* would long have been forgotten. Unfortunately, it is one of the most popular ballet scores of all time that is linked to this broken-backed plot, and linked so closely [thanks to Tchaikovsky's vivid expressiveness] that producers part far from it at their peril.

In one form or another *The Nutcracker* has been part of the British ballet repertoire for more than 50 years, almost as long as there has been any such thing as British ballet. To Festival Ballet especially it has been a godsend, guaranteeing full houses every Christmas and New Year. They long had the most stylish production, too, designed by Benois and staged by Lichine.

This year, rival productions are packing the Festival Hall and Covent Garden, while the Scottish Ballet and Northern Ballet Theatre are successfully touring their versions further north. If that sounds like a lot of *Nutcrackers*, it is nothing compared with the USA, where *Dance Magazine* lists more than 200 different productions across the country this season, sometimes in Miami and St Louis as well as Manhattan) as many as three in one city.

Surprisingly, continental Europe seems comparatively immune, and in Paris the Opéra never saw more than the famous pas de deux until 1972, when the Bolshoi Ballet brought its Grigorovich production. Ten years later, the Ballet de l'Opéra itself put on what seems to have been a very odd version directed by Georges-Francois Hirsch with choreography by Rosella Hightower and the modernist Karole Armitage.



Crisp and cool: Monique Loubières with Manuel Legris in a dolls' dance at the party

That soon vanished and now Nureyev, who took over shortly afterwards, has mounted his own production, a revised version of the one that served Covent Garden very well from 1968 until 1977.

The key to Nureyev's interpretation is identifying Drosselmeyer with the Nutcracker Prince. That makes more sense of the plot as Clara's thoughts about growing up. The similar transformations of other members of her family into dream characters seem more arbitrary, and their arrival en masse at one point dressed as bats works intellectually rather than emotionally.

The greatest changes are in Nicholas Georgiadis's designs, which bring the period forward to about 1900, making the scenes of real life more immediately realistic (the men at the party are all in evening dress) as a contrast to Clara's dreams and nightmares. The family home is still comfortably cosy, but more airily spacious than before. The snowflakes scene, with its cut-out pattern of tangled branches against a very pale sky, against which are silhouetted statures on a rising terrace, looks magically beautiful on the big stage. The one serious error is the hero's new costume when transformed by Clara's imagination from kindly godfather to dream prince: conventional and unflattering, without the decorative motifs that previously related the two characters.

In the orchestra pit the 26-year-old Ulf Schirmer made his Paris debut with a lively but lyrical account of the score.

John Percival

Television
Animal
hostility

After advertising in newspapers for racists and victims of racial discrimination to contact him, Edward Goldwyn, a producer on the BBC2 science series *Horizon*, selected four people from each category to spend five days living together in a country house. During this time they were to be filmed as they talked, and were guided through various group exercises and role-playing games.

The purpose of this experiment was not made clear. When, at the end of the five-day stretch, one woman decided to abandon her racist stance, the narrator announced this in jubilant tones, so perhaps the underlying theory was that human beings would be able to recognize each other as members of the same race if isolated, brought into close proximity and gently prodded by a skilled mediator.

The other three self-confessed bigots, however, did not abandon their attitudes, and the victims - one Asian, two West Indian and one half-caste - apparently went back to their daily lives confirmed in their angry defence against day-to-day discrimination.

Their discussions were guided by a moderator who seemed to be working towards uncovering the emotional basis of racism and the response to it. Early on one man talked of racial integration only in terms of the conquest of the British Isles, and the black participants were frequently prompted to express their anger at the statements made by the Whites.

In this light, racism quickly came to look like an irrational expression of territorial imperative, an animal hostility to what was evidently perceived as an equally violent response.

To avoid classification in the genre of television which is presently invasive first and informative second, this programme should have been more skillfully made. As it was, the group was dominated by a highly articulate man with the visage of a South African accent who looked on all black people as inferior and all racial intermarriage as some kind of extinction of the people involved, and who described apartheid as "racial privacy". None of the other Whites shared his communicative skill, and while two of the other group were able to interact at the same level they showed no strong motivation to argue with a position that was both entrenched and illogical.

Celia Brayfield



Dotty, wanton, broken-doll Beth: Amanda Plummer (right) with Ann Wedgeworth as her chillingly amusing mother and Aiden Quinn as her brother-in-law in *A Lie of the Mind*

New York theatre
Sam Shepard's ramble in mid-career

Two households, both alike in degeneracy, inhabit *A Lie of the Mind*, Sam Shepard's eagerly awaited new play, staged by the author at Off-Broadway's Promenade Theatre. The nearly four-hour epic brings up, but not together, the characters and themes which have dominated Mr Shepard's work.

In spite of many fascinations in the play and production, its elements diffuse in the third act. Rather than an apotheosis or a new direction, *A Lie of the Mind* adds up to a mid-career ramble through landscapes already charted by Shepard, as well as by his American predecessors: O'Neill's family ghosts (and over-writing), Williams's battered women and callous men, Saroyan's yearning for innocence and love.

Stage right is the California family of Jake (Harvey Keitel), who has run home believing he has killed his wife Beth (Amanda Plummer). Jake's mother (Geraldine Page) resembles a countrified Medea, hoarding vengeance fantasies towards the dead husband who deserted her and resenting Jake's brother and sister, who is as overly possessive of Jake as his mother (shades of incest).

Stage left is the Montana clan of Beth, whose beating left her alive but brain-damaged and deliriously guarded by her brother (shades of incest) and mother, and resented by her father. As written by Mr Shepard and played by Ann Wedgeworth and James Gammon (who sounds like John Wayne), Beth's parents are chillingly amusing. Grant Wood figures as if caricatured by a canny newspaper cartoonist. Along with

Amanda Plummer's alternately dotty, wanton, broken-doll Beth, these characters and performances alone make the four hours worthwhile. An added grace is apt country and western music played live between and sometimes during scenes by the Red Jax Rambles.

At the end when Stanley Kowalski-like, Beth's husband howls his unending love for her while she embraces his brother, and her parents achieve a dubious peace by folding an American flag, we have a tableau mixing individual desolation, romantic longing, familial betrayal, cultural corruption. After all the laughs at the outlandish elements and the thought-provoking (and sometimes just provoking) symbols and themes, however, we have many ideas about what is on Mr Shepard's mind but no clear idea of his conclusions, or even of the direction he is taking or wants us to take. Thus it is difficult to take *A Lie of the Mind* too seriously, though doubtless it will provide ample inspiration for those who date on interpretive gymnastics.

Thus far this season, Off-Broadway offerings have seldom been distinguished. While *Aunt Dan and Lemon* is enjoying a sold-out run at the Public Theatre, a musical version of Kipling's *Just So* is just awful. Twee meets Camp to mutual destruction at undue length. Not nearly as bad but on the same overripe axis was Harry Kandel's *Anteroom*, an arch variation of *You Can't Take It With You*, the first production in Playwrights Horizons' season. Its greatest virtue was a sterile but splendid

known drama, *The Mound Builders*.

Two musical reviews perk up Off-Broadway considerably. *Personals* (Minetta Lane Theatre) features six very appealing, very able singer-actors in songs and vignettes about single people searching for dates and mates in ways kinky to amusing to wistful ("All I need is a good man and a good piano. I have a good piano.") Gerard Alessandrini's *Forbidden Broadway 1986* (Palsson's) remains perennially favourite parodies of Stephen Sondheim, Carol Channing and others, while adding deliciously naughty swipes at *Singin' in the Rain* ("You Are My Yucky Star"), *Tango Argentino*, Bernadette Peters, Joseph Papp, *Big River* and many merry targets. This show warmly deserves its 1985 Drama Desk Award for its "consistently high standard of irreverence".

Holly Hill

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FASHION I by Suzy Menkes

Second in an occasional series on fashion-makers

Headmistress with art in her craft

Jean Muir celebrated the New Year by sitting up in bed, sipping a glass of champagne, and "thinking about designs for the next collection".

She has two good reasons to fête the start of 1986: it marks the twentieth anniversary of the year when, in the midst of the wild unbridled 1960s fashion revolution, Jean Muir Ltd was set up to create prim and properly-made dresses. On December 20, after more than a year's negotiation, Miss Jean Muir, CBE, and her husband Harry Leuckert signed a deal which officially acknowledges her role as Britain's leading designer. The Coats Paton Group, umbrella company to Jaeger, where Jean Muir started her design career in 1956, have taken a majority financial interest in Jean Muir Ltd.

This deal gives Jean Muir the springboard for expansion that is the norm for continental designers. The investment will be primarily in the Studio collections - the fashion ranges set up five years ago to offer the Jean Muir designs to a wider public on a price tier below the main collection. Ian McGourty, Comptroller of Coats Paton, says that the tie-up will initially strengthen distribution, especially in the United States. It will also enable Miss Muir to enlarge her design studio, where she already employs and trains, with messianic fervour, art college graduates.

"We feel that Jean's strength is bringing on young designers", says Ian McGourty. "Perhaps she likes working with young designers more than getting into a room by herself."

Jean Muir's work with fledgling designers and her overwhelming concern with the craft and technique of dressmaking were recognized by her CBE for services to industry in

close up

JEAN MUIR

- 1956 Designer for Jaeger
- 1962 Founded Jane and Jane
- 1965 Ambassador Award for Achievement
- 1966 Jean Muir Ltd set up
- 1967 Maison Blanche Rex International Award, New Orleans
- 1970 Churchman's Award
- 1971 Designer of Year
- 1972 Royal Designer for Industry (RDI)
- 1972 Elected fellow Royal Society of Arts
- 1973 Nieman Marcus award, distinguished service to fashion
- 1978 Fellow of Society of Industrial Artists and Designers, FSIAD
- 1981 Honorary Doctor, Royal College of Art
- 1984 Commander of the Order of the British Empire, CBE
- 1985 Honorary Degree, Doctor of Literature, University of Newcastle
- 1985 Hommage de la Mode by Fédération Française du Prêt-à-porter Féminin

the 1984 New Year Honours. She is an uncompromising and sometimes uncomfortable colleague on the Design Council or as an Honorary Doctor of the Royal College of Art.

She was particularly proud of being made a Royal Designer for Industry by the Royal Society of Arts in 1972 at the age of 40. Five years later she presented a forceful paper insisting on the need for setting a standard of design teaching.

There is something of the fashion headmistress about Jean Muir - her disconcertingly slight frame, always encased in plain navy blue from head to toe. She is proud of her Scottish roots and fosters the Jean Brodie image when she lectures

designers (and fashion editors) on the need to restore a sense of pride in the technique of making clothes. The only thing missing was the Scottish accent when she addressed the massed ranks of the Women's Institute with the words: "I cannot in your company ignore the things most passionate to me - art and craft and design and the upholding of standards and quality, maintaining them and setting new ones".

A desire "constantly to trim things down and to concern one's self with a basis uncomplicated by supposition of frills" is the Muir philosophy of life, of design and of living. Her Bruton Street showroom is the plainest white, decorated only with delicate pencil-painted portraits of herself (Her mobile white face and red lips ticked mouth magnetize modern painters.)

She and her husband live in a fussy Victorian mansion block behind the Albert Hall, but their flat is painted white through walls and floor. The furnishings are minimal. Miss Muir is a purist.

Or, as Sir Roy Strong (she is also a trustee of the Victoria & Albert Museum) expresses it: "All fashion is either classic or romantic and Jean Muir is the former, rarer bird".

There are no frills on Jean Muir or her collections - although I do remember a clown's ruff in silky jersey falling like a cape from neck to shoulders. Everybody recognizes the jerseys, even if they are now the least part of a collection that is important for its suede, its printed fabrics (inspired by young textile students) and increasingly for its cashmeres.

But the Jean Muir dress is still the most lyrical expression of her art of dressmaking. ("The



I am a traditionalist with a sense of evolution - someone who loves evolving continuity - I prefer evolution to revolution



Left: Jean Muir, dressed in navy blue from head to foot and living with pure white walls

Above: The early Jean Muir silhouette of full sleeves, narrow shoulders and short calotte skirt

Right: Slim-line intarsia cashmere tabard, sweater and skirt from the current collection

most outstanding dressmaker in the world" is the description of Jean Muir by Geraldine Stutz, president of Henri Bendel in New York.)

Because Jean Muir clothes are miracles of cutting (18 pattern pieces to one little peplum jacket, for example) they seem deceptively simple. Changes are so subtle that her collections are a disappointment to headline writers. In fact, the evolution from the taut shoulder-line, full sleeves, high waist and skimpy bias-cut skirts of 1966 to the generous armholes, wrap jackets and slim crepe trousers of today, has been profound.

These fashion changes, and the skills of cut and drape, are

sometimes better understood by international critics than at home. The French, in particular, admire her for her couture sense of cut and consider her Britain's only great fashion designer. She was awarded the Hommage de la Mode by the Fédération Française du Prêt-à-porter Féminin last autumn. Her "clients" (for they think of her as a couturière and themselves as friends rather than "customers") include Lady Antonia Fraser, Joanna Lumley, Jill Bennett and Bridget Riley - all women in the public eye but known also for their intelligence.

Jean Muir is also recognized overseas for her use of true British fabrics: tweed, cash-

mere, wool flannel, fine cotton. I think especially of the Muir attention to detail: a navy leather pinafore dress I bought which had an enamel buckle painted with a pastoral cow, and the buttons with a pride of calves.

Miss Muir says: "I have always worked with young jewellers and button makers. Under the new arrangements, I hope I can work more on accessories and even move into other areas like ceramics. It all comes from a design point of view."

Coats Paton hope that Jean Muir will widen and develop her ranges and also contribute her design direction to their

own empire, which includes Country Casuals as well as Jaeger, and the hand-knitting yarns and craft threads that make up 20 per cent of the company's figures.

Jean Muir has trodden the pin-scattered road to success slowly and carefully. She herself had no formal design training. She learnt on the job for six years at Jaeger between 1956 and 1962 before leaving to work under the Jane and Jane label.

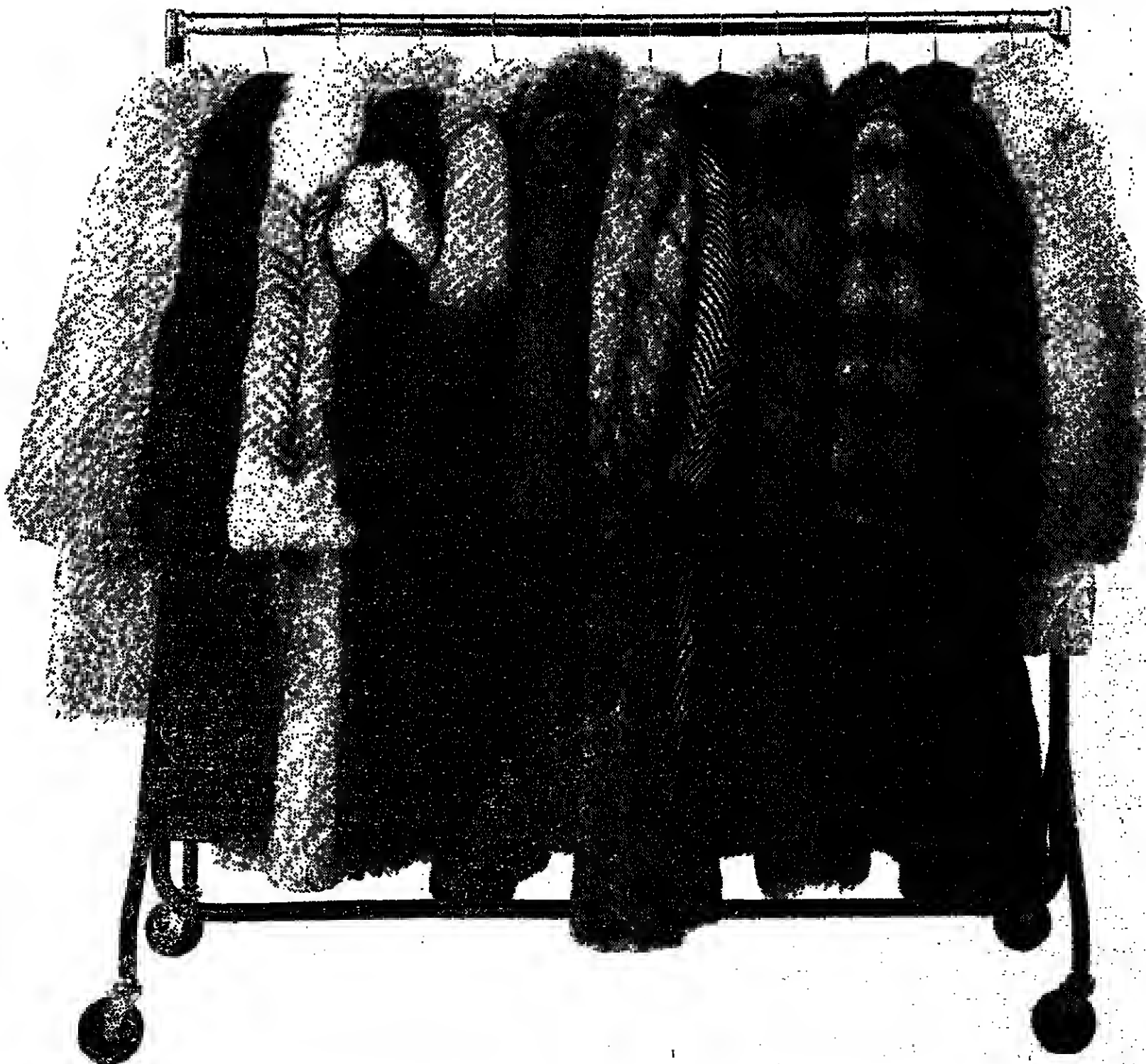
There has been what McGourty calls "a continuing emotional relationship" with Jaeger over the past 20 years and, in a characteristically unshowy way, Jean Muir has been giving some "design input" to the Jaeger

Jean Muir has, at the age of 53, achieved the link-up between fine design and commercial manufacturing in which she so passionately believes. I asked her whether she thought young fashion designers hooked on stardom, realized how long it takes to build a fashion empire.

"I don't look at it as having taken me 20 years", she says. "We could probably have done it 19 years ago, but we liked the business as it was. Then, when we were talking with Coats Paton, it seemed instinctively right. It is time to push on. Obviously the more you know your trade, the better it is for you. I believe in strength from experience."

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Shadow Silver Fox Cape (one only)	13,200	4,995
Coney Lined Raincoats	1,995	995
Mongolian Fox Jacket (one only)	5,995	2,995
Sapphire Mink Coats	10,900	4,995
Azurene Mink Stroller (one only)	11,200	4,995
Fitch and Mink Coats	5,995	2,995
Chinchilla Coat (one only)	34,500	16,995
Dark Mink Boleros	4,995	1,995
Silver Fox Jackets	3,995	1,995
Raccoon Après-Ski Jackets	3,600	1,800
Shadow Fox and Raccoon Coats	3,995	1,995
Mongolian Lamb Jackets	995	495
Shadow and Red Fox Coats	3,995	1,995
Pastel Mink Coats with Fox trim	4,995	2,495
Designer Raccoon Jackets	1,995	995

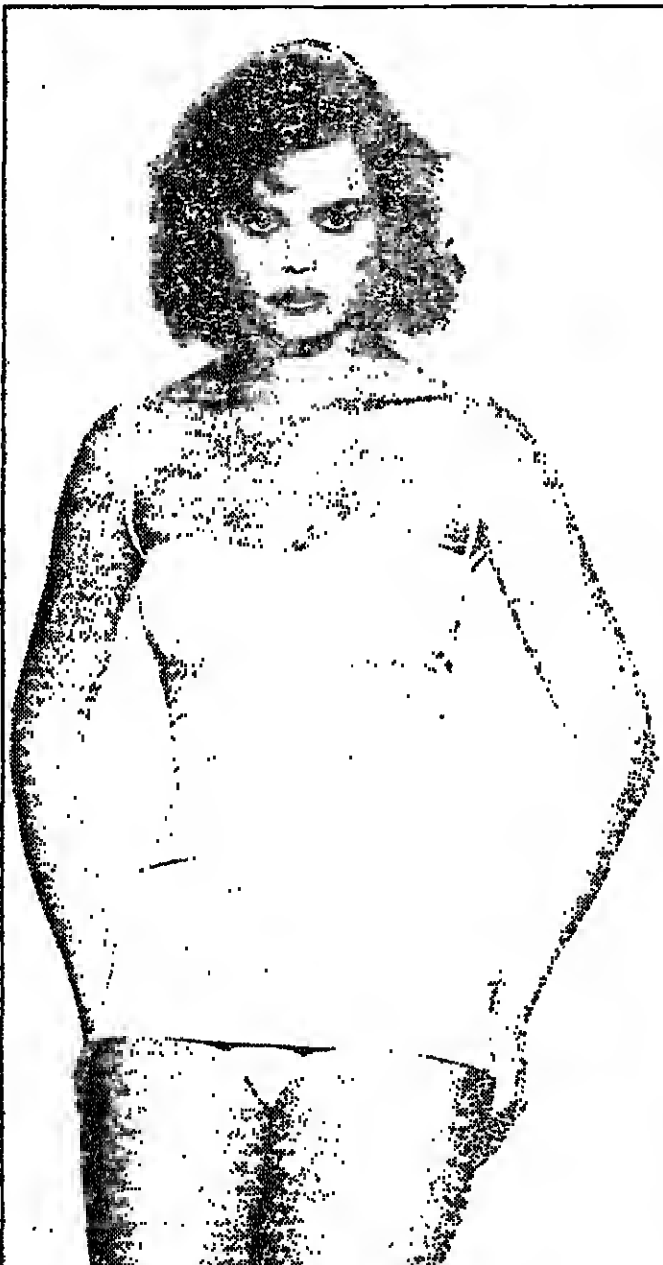
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FASHION II

Woollen undies for winter warmth



Is it better to wear winter woolies next to your skin - or over your clothes?

This winter's temperatures rise and fall like a yo-yo, which is what our grandmothers would have called "treacherous" weather. They viewed it from behind a barricade of flannel petticoats, combinations, *Directoire* knickers and other undies designed to pull the wool over their thighs.

Although the new generation of lightweight winter underwear looks so completely different, it serves the same function: to cover the torso from chest to knees. Central heating and modern fashion have combined to make us dress in light-as-a-breeze winter wardrobes unsuited to January's icy blast. Those whose homes are chilly, or who need protection en route to work, demand a great deal from their smalls.

Spencers, vests and long johns need to be efficient at the

A touch of lacy glamour has entered the once strictly functional world of thermal underwear

job of warming up, but also to adjust comfortably to the changing temperatures. There is no doubt that the genuine thermal fibres are the most efficacious. Tiny pockets of warm air are trapped in the fabric as a layer of insulation, and the same fibre breathes out the other way. Or, as Damart express it more technically of their own Thermolactyl fibre, it draws perspiration away from the skin, allowing it to evaporate, so that the body itself stays dry as well as warm. These "breathing" properties apply to other natural fibres.

which is why those who would not be seen dead in a vest are found alive and well in winter with their summer T-shirts tucked under a sweater.

Both thermal underwear (and you must look for a serious label and discount all imitations) and cotton undies have undergone a design transformation. Insets or edgings of lace, and delicate patterns built into the structure of the fabric, are all a far cry from the yellowing and felted combinations that once came between glamour and frost-bite.

This is true at least for the top halves. The "bottoms" are still alarming garments, so accurately called "pessiou cheaters" half a century ago.

But other styles from lingerie's earlier years are making a fashionable come-back. Norma Kamali, the American designer whose passion for the 1940s has been expressed in her clothes, has now recreated underwear redolent of the forces' pin-up. Her all-in-one body-suit, with a long-legged "vest" of fabric stretching over its panties, is the shape of swimsuits to come next summer.

If we wore nothing but layers of wool, we could probably survive the English winter without another stitch of clothing. But layers of the cheaper acrylic sweaters do not give the same warming effect.

The warmest, softest and lightest of wools is undoubtedly cashmere, one of the best buys currently available in the sales. To prove that keeping warm need not mean muffling up, we photographed our model with just one high-fashion layer above and below freezing point.

Above: UNDERWEAR - Norma Kamali's 1940s swimsuit-style salmon pink body-suit in thick cotton and lycra, £60 from Browns, 23-27 South Molton Street, W1

Above Left: UNDERWEAR - lace-trimmed pale pink vest, 100 per cent knitted polyester, £3.25, also in white or lemon. Matching French knickers with lace edging, £2.75, both from major branches of Marks and Spencer. Pink glossy tights, £1.25 by Aristoc from department stores. OVERWEAR - cream cable-knit cashmere cardigan with brass buttons, £124.75 from Bark, 46-50 Burlington Arcade, W1

Hair and make-up: Clifford Braks for Michaeljohn. Photographs by DAVID ANTHONY

Above: UNDERWEAR - calico oyster cotton and silk lace-trimmed vest, also in white and pink and lemon, £35 by La Perla from Courtenay, 22-24 Brook Street, W1 and 188 Sloane Street, SW1. White stretchy lace knitted thermal leggings, £6.45 from Damart, 263 Regent Street, W1, and by mail order (send for catalogue to order) from Damart, Bowling Green Mills, Bingley, West Yorkshire. OVERWEAR - men's long sloppy red cashmere "Higgins" cardigan, knitted in a grid pattern, £195 by Jean Muir in the sale at Browns, 27 South Molton Street, London W1 and 6c Sloane Street, SW1.

Above Centre: UNDERWEAR - fine stretchy lace-patterned white thermal vest with long sleeves, matching white leggings, also in black, scarlet, lemon and burgundy, both £6.45 from Damart, 263 Regent Street, W1, or by mail order from Damart, Bowling Green Mills, Bingley, West Yorkshire. OVERWEAR - scarlet wrap-over cashmere smoking jacket, edged in white with a long cashmere belt, £420 by Valerie Louthan from Lords, 70 Burlington Arcade, W1.

TIPS FOR COMBING UP

◎ Peruvian Style: Wrap up in layers of bright coloured knitwear worn with an oversized peasant skirt over ski-pants and heavy hiking boots. Emerald green and purple sweaters with triangles and flowers for £27 under green or navy quilted coats for £50. Tie a thick wool scarf, £8, underneath a felt trilly, £9, trimmed with feathers. All by French Connection at Connections, James Street, WC2, and at department store concessions throughout the country. Warm up your hands with fingerless gloves worn over thick wool mittens, all in earthy terracotta shades of alpaca or bright electric colours of vegetable dye from Inca, 45 Elizabeth Street, SW1.

◎ Working for Warmth: Dressed for a Slavic style winter are Workers for Freedom at 4 Lower John Street, W1, selling

tasselled waistcoats and cardigans in woven and knitted wool, £80, to wear under stencilled jackets showing horses and llamas, with matching black wool trousers or peasant skirts, £50. Slavic accessories are thick blanket-stitched workman's gloves, fringed woollen shawls tied under deep-crowned felt hats, all £25.

◎ All Toggled Up: For hardy winter services the duffel coat has made a come-back this year in a variety of shapes and sizes from donkey jacket to full-length. Mulberry's scarlet hooded coat has bone toggles and leather thongs and comes to the ankle or the knee from £169.50 at 11-12 Gees Court, W1. The sale at Next branches has duffel coats for £39.99 in lime, black, pimento or turquoise.

Rebecca Tyrrel

A JILL GORDON DESIGN
EHRMAN TAPESTRY

This cheerful tapestry has been designed exclusively for us by the painter Jill Gordon. The powder blue daisies and pink flowers are on a cream background, and are surrounded by a border of leaves. Jill Gordon lives in the Cotswolds and is well-known for her still-life and landscape watercolours. We were delighted when she agreed to design a tapestry kit for us and the result is one of the most attractive cushions we have yet produced.



The design measures 14" x 14" and is worked in simple half-cross stitch. It is printed in the full nine colours: Cream, powder blue, azure, navy, sage and a pale turquoise, faded rose, sand and pink. The canvas is 12 holes to the inch and the kit comes complete with all the required yarns from the Appletton pure wool tapestry range, needle and instructions. All for £17.50 including postage and packing. Use FREEPOST - No stamp needed.

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THE TIMES DIARY

Reid's rude awakening

The early hours of yesterday morning were not happy ones for British Rail chairman Boh Reid, who had spent Hogmanay in Scotland. Late on Sunday night he boarded the first class sleeper at Crianlarich, for a peaceful night on the West Highland Line. Barely had his head touched the pillow than a jittery fire alarm roused him, and did so twice again. At 5.30am an almighty bang, later identified as a damaged brake pipe, halted the train and forced the sleeper carriage to be taken off at Tamworth in Staffordshire. Reid, changing from his pyjamas, made his way anonymously to the second class seats where, I am told, he buried his head in a book as two Glaswegians volubly discussed whether BR was "getting there" and where it could go. He got to Euston 90 minutes late. Yesterday Reid told me: "It's not a bad thing for the chairman of a company to share some of his customers' experiences."

Waugh & Pearce

Auberon Waugh, the unlikely new editor-designate of the monthly *Literary Review*, faces at least one problem when he takes over: what to do about one of the magazine's regular reviewers, Edward Pearce. Pearce, a political sketch writer on the *Daily Telegraph*, last month in the *Review* nominated Waugh's diaries as the most overrated book of 1985. "Waugh Jr has always seemed a talent in a lawyer's pot. The *casus belli* was, it is true, so small as to be invisible - it was, as a matter of fact, a piece of land 1.3 sq ft in area - but the passions released, on both sides, were such that they could scarcely have seemed greater if the parties were each laying claim to the whole of Texas. And it is those passions, rather than a few ounces of earth, that concern me here."

First, an outline of the facts. (I take them from *The Guardian*, which seems to have been the only paper to report the case.) Early in 1985, a couple in Kent decided their land, in doing so, they moved it from its original position, in the direction of their neighbours' ground, and a bit over.

Hal cry all the lower deck lawyers among you; attempting to pinch land belonging to others, were they? Then they *deserve* to be eaten by lawyers, without butter and without salt. Very possibly; but their march into friendly and peaceful territory, I must now reveal, was somewhat less dramatic than the Nazi blitzkrieg, and they travelled, in the course of it, not quite so far as Mao Tse-tung and his companions on the Long March. They moved the fence post two inches.

De minimis, it seems, *curat lex* like billy-o. I have, it is true, often drawn attention to the fact that no one has even seen a fat litigator or a thin lawyer, but there cannot have been many cases which pointed as clearly as this one to the sinister truth behind that curious phenomenon. For two and a half years the battle raged, even though those who moved the fence-post represented themselves. (If they had hired lawyers too, the case would doubtless have gone on for two and a half decades. The Jarndyce didn't know when they were well off.)

When the hearing was over, the judge took four months to consider his judgment, which took two hours to read. The costs totalled up to thousands of pounds, and it is by no means certain, at least to me, who won, or for that matter what "won" meant in such a case; the only conclusion I have come to on my own behalf is that in my next life I am going to be a manufacturer of those little blue cardboard corners that lawyers fix to packets to documents.

Now if you think that two and a half years of litigation is a fairly steep price to pay for two inches of land, you are right, but I am even righter than you, because I once read of a case in which the dispute concerned not the position of a fence-post, for both parties agreed that it was exactly on the boundary, but the string round the post, which had entered the defendant's with malice aforethought, on to the other man's patch, so that the dispute was literally over the thickness of a piece of string.

Shortly after I read about that horror, I found myself talking to a barrister at a party, and invited him,

on no more than those facts, to extemporize a closing speech to a jury on behalf of the man who complained of trespass by string. He did so with such conviction and brilliance that I began to make the sign against the Evil Eye, and several of the more devout listeners to his efforts crossed themselves.

Hamlet had views on this problem. When faced with the imminent death of twenty thousand men to decide the ownership of a piece of land that had in it no profit but the name, whereon the numbers could not try the cause and, for good measure, that was not torn enough nor continent to hide the slain, he decided that rightly to be great was not to stir without great argument, but greatly to find honour in a straw when honour was at the stake.

The people on both sides of the moved fence-post thought that honour was at the stake; so did those who debated the thickness of a piece of string. So did the former policeman sacked at the time of the Liverpool police strike in 1919, whom I used to see at Speakers' Corner in my youth, carrying a placard about the injustice he claimed to have suffered, and making for the thousandth time the same speech about Commander Locker-Lampson. So was the lady who spent decades trying to prove that she had not been guilty of the trivial traffic offence for which she had been fined £5.

I forget who said, of *Othello*, that with a little give and take on both sides the trouble could have been avoided. (Katherine Whitehorn went even further and pointed out that if, when *Othello* said, "Lend me thy handkerchief", Desdemona had said, "It's at the laundry", there would never have been any trouble in the first place.)

Yet people have ruined their lives for sixpence, and the lives of others for threepence; they have murdered

individual Arab nations abhor both Gadafifi's regime and his self-evident arrogance. The real truth, however objectionable it may be to the West, and to the Americans in particular, is that the Arabs are almost daily becoming more convinced that the US has no serious intention of meeting the Palestinians' aspirations for a homeland, and that anyone who can upset the nations which once promised help is at least doing something for their cause, however terrible their acts may be.

That is why some of America's friends talk of solving the causes of such violent acts, rather than just hitting back at the perpetrators. For it is a deeply depressing reality in the Middle East these days that the voices of moderation - be they of King Hussein or President Mubarak - are achieving ever less effect upon Arab listeners. If President Reagan - with or without Israel - strikes at an Arab nation he does the work of "annihilation", then the Arabs will line up against the United States. Libya may itself take fright at the approach of the USS Coral Sea and utter some hurried if somewhat hypocritical condemnation of the airport killings. But in Arab eyes, until the problems of the Middle East are addressed seriously and impartially by the West, there are likely to be yet more massacres at the check-in desks.

Thus, ultimately, is why the Arab world was so slow to condemn the airport atrocities. It is difficult for Arab governments to explain their outrage after the massacres visited upon the Palestinians over the past decade, especially in Lebanon. Colonel Gadafifi - if he is, indeed, behind Abu Nidal's current activities - realizes this only too well. He is also well aware how embarrassing it is for Arafat, the enemy of both Libya and Syria, to express his own condemnation while evidently achieving so little in his own struggle for a homeland.

Thus when the Americans and Israelis threaten to retaliate for the murders at European airports, the Arab world prefers to give its moral support to Libya, however much the

conclusion of years of humiliation. Many Palestinians, including those members of Arafat's Fatah movement, no longer believe there is any future in political struggle. The arguments over UN Resolution 242, the conflict between PLO and the PLO, the debate over Jordan's offer to negotiate for the West Bank and Gaza Strip, now appear irrelevant to many of Arafat's own advisers.

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Why the Arabs back Gadafifi

Robert Fisk finds opposition to terrorism wearing thin in the face of humiliation and a deep-rooted feeling of western betrayal

Anyone who wants to understand the slaughter at Rome and Vienna airports should walk through the Chatila camp for Palestinian refugees in Beirut. The visitor should wear boots, because the sewerage overflows the pavements. The families in the camp will offer him cups of hot, sweet tea, but the stranger who wishes to avoid hepatitis would do well to turn down these spontaneous acts of generosity. A glance at the pulverised buildings, the screaming, barefoot children, a few words from the young men - sometimes physically wounded by the wars of the past 10 years, sometimes invisibly mutilated by the savagery visited upon them - should be sufficient to make the visitor feel that he is in the midst of a horror. For Chatila, Sabra, Bourj el-Barajneh, Ein Helwe, Nahr el-Bared and the other rain-soaked, destitute camps in Lebanon provide a recruiting and training ground for any young Palestinian whom the Abu Nidal's of this world can select. One of the abiding themes of the Middle East is that of treachery, and there is hardly a man, woman and child who does not talk of betrayal - betrayal by the West when the Americans and French moved the PLO from Beirut in 1982, and left the refugees to the mercy of Israel's Phalangist allies; betrayal by Arafat when he promised a homeland which moved further away with every battle; betrayal by Syria when

Bernard Levin: the way we live now



A post that should have been deserted

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Digby Anderson

Give compassion real conflict

Television producers usually love conflict so much they will manufacture disagreement where none exists, yet one contemporary struggle is largely ignored, especially by television: that between rival groups petitioning for money from the government. A pity, for it would make good television.

Television's standbys - audience polls, harrowing case studies and arguing panelists - have plenty of life in them: it is the way the roles are allocated between contenders that is the problem.

The format starts with an interview with an elderly person who would like more money. This means taxpayers' money and is usually referred to as "support". Her tale is harrowing. She patiently needs more money. In the studio audience are other people, notionally like her, "the elderly", who want more money; and representatives of care industries who would also like more money both directly for those "in need" and for themselves to support those in need.

The panel of experts or politicians consists of one or two who also think it would be nice if all these people had some more money and one (this is how I became interested in the matter) who has yet to be convinced. An audience of home-viewers is polled before and after the discussion on whether they think more money should be given. There is much talk of rights, needs, obligations and suffering.

The programmes are adequate, sometimes excellent, but they lack something. Without it, their disagreements are part of a phoney war. Among the panel, the studio audience and the home audience there is nobody, not even your humble columnist, whose real interests would be damaged if the particular group were given more money. The discussion is weakened because the real conflict is ruled out by the format.

Such programmes take those "in need" group by group: this week the elderly, next week one-parent families, striking teachers or the homeless. Looked at in isolation, each group has a plausible claim to be a special case. But what if they were put together?

Why not remove the party-obsessed politicians and the pontificating independent experts from the panel and replace them with representatives of the lobbies competitively seeking funds from the state? On each weekly show there would be a different four panelists each putting the case for a group such as the poor, one-parent families, the elderly, the unemployed, drug addicts, rural bus-users, chaps wanting to "insulate their lofts or have a new roof on the rates, the homeless, sexual minorities, farmers, those racially discriminated against, opera-goers, striking teachers, university students, the BBC and others that make up the 52 per cent who now receive their incomes from government.

They would argue against each other for limited resources. That, after all, is a truer representation of reality. No longer would the lobby

for the elderly just have to make out the easy case that it would be nice if they had more money; it would have to argue that they, rather than the teachers, should have more money and that it should come from, say, the sexual minorities and unemployed having less. If lively argument is the stuff of television, that should be lively.

If harrowing stories of suffering bring in the viewers, why not two stories competing for compassion? No longer would those wanting more "resources" for the homeless be allowed to smother the sympathy they would have to demolish their opponents' stories, or better than.

If polls taken before and after studio discussion are good television, why not toughen the current limp questions to, "Which of these groups most deserve more government money... and which less?" or "The cost to you, the average earner, of meeting the demands of these six groups is £100. Which, if any, would you cease to subsidise?"

Even more challenging versions could be devised for Channel 4 in which panelists represented different sections of the same group among the elderly, say, those under 80 and over 80. Just as optimal government policies should be targeted on those within such huge categories as "the elderly" who need help most, so discussion should seek to split up heterogeneous categories. It should be differentiating, for example, between, to point to those who do not need their insulation subsidized by the taxpayer.

The British tax system involves those earning sums within the official definition of "poverty" in paying income tax at standard rates. A representative of this section of taxpayers should be on the programme every week, and so should a cost assessor.

State subsidies in the real-life game are limited: more money to some means less for others. Those lobbying for more state money are in dispute not so much with the government as with each other. But television, apparently marooned in the cost-conscious Sixties, continues to disguise the competitive character of state munificence. It does this not by conspiracy or bias but as a by-product of a format which isolates each case, presenting it as a dispute between a comparatively small number of desperately needy citizens and a government of mean politicians.

A weekly discussion show that had the lobbies for increased subsidy arguing against each other, asking for more for themselves and less for their competitors, would be more realistic and better television. Viewers would learn much more about rival merits and demerits. They would be confronted with tough ethical challenges rather than the easy option of a series of ersatz compassion concessions. The final poll might even be a surprise.

Can readers suggest a suitable name for the programme? The author is director of the Social Affairs Unit.

moreover... Miles Kington

It's the same new story

Last Friday I was listening to Radio 4, and behold, Radio 4 said to me that on Sunday morning there would be a new-look series of programmes on Radio 4. And I hearkened, wondering what this new-look style of Radio 4 would look like, wondering indeed how Radio 4 could look like anything. Behold, this is what they promised me new-wise.

9.15 Alistair Cooke's Letter From America.

9.30 Morning Service.

10.15 The Archers Omnibus Edition.

11.15 Margaret Howard's Pick of the Week.

12.15 Desert Island Discs, with Michael Parkinson.

To say that I was sore amazed would be to underestimate the case. The first three of these programmes were exactly the same as I remembered from the old-look Radio 4. On Sunday, *Pick of the Week* is an old-look programme, transplanted from Saturday, while *Desert Island Discs* is a very old-look programme, transplanted from Roy Plomley.

Not only that, but Alistair Cooke, Margaret Howard and *The Archers* were all repeats from the previous week - in fact, *Pick of the Week* is a double repeat, as its contents - as its name implies, for the benefit of all name implies, for the benefit of all name implies - have been heard before they ever get into *Pick of the Week*. *Desert Island Discs* was going out for the first time, but it is to be repeated next Friday.

Really, the only new thing about the Sunday morning, apart from Michael Parkinson's new breeziness, was the absence of the new things that had previously been broadcast on Sunday morning, the *Sunday Colour Supplement* and so on. What was so remarkable about Radio 4's Sunday morning was that it was so old-look, as if somebody upstairs had decided it was time to stop mucking about and get as many traditional elements back into Sunday morning as possible. It was rather like presenting you with a Christmas tree, roast turkey, carols, singing and a piece of mistletoe, and calling it a new-look Christmas.

I have no quarrel with Radio 4's ingredients, most of which I like. What I find so off-putting is calling it "new-look". Why is it that we can be expected to enjoy something only if it is new? Why not come straight

out and call it old-look? It would be me last Friday. "And on Sunday morning we have a real old-style series of programmes on Radio 4 for you to enjoy, the good old good ones that you've always liked..." At least it would have been truthful.

To take another example, there is a product for cleaning windows called "Windolene". At least, I remember it being called Windolene. But the last time I saw a bottle of the stuff, it wasn't called Windolene at all; it was called "New Improved Windolene Plus". Three words out of four being new, to tell us it was new-look. Coming soon: Brand New Improved Windolene Extra Plus. No doubt excellent stuff, my libel lawyers tell me, but wouldn't it be possible one day to present us with Good Old Traditional Windolene? I think I'd rush out and buy a bottle for my good old traditional windows.

In any case, if I were a PR man I would use the word "new" with great caution, as it has so many overtones of change and tradition. Almost everything once called new has become period. The *New Statesman*, the *New Deal*, art nouveau, nouvelle vague, new towns, the *New Woman*, New Jersey, the *New Look* - all rooted in history. Most of New York looks like the oldest town in the world. Edinburgh's New Town was pretty well complete by 1800. And when did anyone last think of the novel as being particularly novel? If I ever get round to writing a novel, should I call it a *New Improved Novel Plus*?

When the *Evening Standard* became London's only evening paper, it decided to give itself a new image by calling itself the *New Standard*. I don't believe any of its readers ever returned to it by this name, and the owners never had the same way, because in a rare rush of sanity the word *New* was dropped and it is now the plain *Standard*. When people call something new, it is generally from a fear that it will otherwise be thought old.

Anyway, tomorrow's column will be a new-look Morsover. The *New Moreover* will contain the best of today's column, plus highlights from last week's columns, as well as extracts from Morsover of yesterday. It will be repeated on Friday. I hope you enjoy it.



"I don't know as I'd really fancy being a teacher"

Favourites all

The Society of Authors is undergoing its annual anxiety over the Betty Frank award for first novels of romantic bent by under-35s. With entries due in by the end of the month, only a dozen have so far been received - giving each a 50-50 chance of winning either the £12,500 first prize or one of the five £1,000 consolation prizes. The society, meanwhile, has acquired another potentially troublesome legacy to administer. Kathleen Blundell, an accountant, has left more than £100,000 for works contributing to greater understanding of existing social and economic organization.

Facing facts

On the gilt-edged invitations for the 30th anniversary celebrations of the independence of the Democratic Republic of Sudan, the word "Democratic" has been clumsily scored out. Yesterday an embassy spokesman explained: the name was changed a few weeks ago. Ah, so.

Stock tactics

The far-right Federation of Conservative Students is predictably contemptuous of Michael Heseltine's interventionist, anti-American stand over Westland. Extreme as ever, it is backing its words with action. It is investing £40 in Westland shares so that one of its officers can vote for the Sikorski tie-up at next Tuesday's crucial shareholders' meeting and "put Heseltine in his place".

PHS

San Salvador
Torture is becoming increasingly common in El Salvador, raising grave doubts over the guilt of prisoners said to have confessed to political crimes and questioning President Duarte's capacity to control human rights abuses.

The Roman Catholic Church declared this month that torture on the increase, producing confessions completely removed from reality. Electric shocks, beatings, sleep deprivation, rape, threats against the lives of relatives have all become standard interrogation practice among El Salvador's security forces, according to well-documented evidence.

One particularly fearsome torture device is "La Capucha", a canvas bag put over a prisoner's head and made airtight with a noose around the neck. The prisoner, usually handcuffed and blindfolded, is brought repeatedly to the verge of suffocation, his throat and nasal passages scalded by the bag's lining of lime as he struggles for breath.

Recently I was allowed inside the Mariona political prison to inter-

view some of the prisoners. What they told me substantiated horrifying reports already brought to the attention of lawyers, diplomats and human rights groups.

Santos Garcia, who had worked as a chauffeur for the human rights officer at the US embassy, was picked up by the feared Treasury Police on September 12. "They took me to their underground basement, blindfolded me and applied electric shocks to my teeth, ears, nose and genitals. But La Capucha was the worst of all."

Garcia says he received no solid food for 12 days and was not allowed sleep, being made to remain standing, handcuffed and usually naked, all the time he was in his small, dark cell.

Garcia confirmed that at the same time an economist employed by a US government agency, Graciela Menendez de Iglesias - accused, like him, of being a guerrilla collaborator - had been raped and also tortured. Both signed documents "confessing" their guilt, having reached a state of "madness", as Garcia described it. Menendez was released for lack of

hard evidence. Garcia was consigned by a military judge to Mariona where he faces the prospect of several years' imprisonment without legal sentence.

A more celebrated case is that of the Centeno brothers - Vladimir, 21, and Jaime, 18, who were arrested on November 8 and for seven consecutive days appeared on TV confessing to having kidnaped Colonel Omar Napoleon Avalos two weeks earlier. Both are in Mariona prison and are likely to stay there indefinitely.

Vladimir, a biology teacher, said they had been beaten on the head, genitals and soles of their feet. "La Capucha" was used on them and they received electric shocks. (Burn marks are still clearly visible on Vladimir's arms.) "We were made to stand in a tub of pestilential water, filthy with urine. Again and again they forced our heads down into the water and we nearly drowned. We were kept standing, blindfolded and handcuffed, all night. By the third day, we had lost all sense of time."

Then they were threatened - like Garcia and Menendez - that their immediate family members would be killed if they did not co-operate.

John Carlin



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MR HESELTINE'S JOYSTICK

When Mr Michael Heseltine chose to take his extraordinary position in the battle for Westland Helicopters "he surely thought that it would be to his long-term political advantage. In doing so he has raised serious question marks over his capacity for the responsible judgement that would be required of him if he were ever to attain the higher office to which he aspires.

That is not to say that the Defence Secretary is insincere in his belief that the European consortium is the best answer to Britain's defence needs and the Westland workers' need for jobs. Nor is it to say that the bizarre events of the past few weeks will do Mr Heseltine harm when the battle proper begins for the next Tory leadership. The charge is a greater one than those. It is not that he has recklessly misread Westland's interests or his own interests, but that the delicate web of national interest in defence co-operation with the European and US partners in Nato has been damaged for reasons that are capricious at best, selfish at worst.

The convention of collective Cabinet responsibility often seems tiresome and unnecessary, both to those who are bound by it and to those in the Press whose duty it is to foment free debate. In this case, however, it is especially to be desired: Mr Heseltine argued that a failure to take the European consortium's offer would damage Britain's "European" credentials and jeopardize future prospects in European co-operative deals. That may be true. But it is true largely because Mr Heseltine - by his initial hasty commitments and subsequent dramatic fight against his colleagues - has made it so.

In the particular case of future European helicopter projects, the fact that the Solicitor General, Sir Patrick Mayhew, yesterday accused Mr Heseltine of a "material inaccuracy" in a letter to the European consortium's merchant bank is a matter of still deeper concern. How many more of his colleagues now believe that, in Mr Heseltine's mind excitement has taken the place of reason?

The collective view of the Cabinet is that Westland's board of directors should be allowed to direct the company's future. If the company has two attractive solutions to consider so much the better. The Trade and Industry Secretary, Mr Leon Brittan, need not feel injured if the European partners put together an offer which knocks the Sikorsky-Fiat proposal clean off the negotiating table. Mr Heseltine will, of course, be delighted by such an outcome. His standing in the leadership stakes would rise.

They may also rise, however, if the Sikorsky-Fiat bid goes through. It will be a personal defeat but a tactical one too. He will be able to ride off to the back-benches in the security that the Defence and Industry lobbies of Tory MPs (the largest and most powerful lobbies of their kind) will be grateful admirers of his stand. The Defence Secretary has not hitherto been well backed in his parliamentary party. He will have arrived in exile with probably the best start he could have made for improving that crucial base of support.

Surely, it may be argued, Mr Heseltine does not want to risk becoming a Francis Pym, a James Prior (now battling for Westland wearing his GEC hat) or an Ian Gilmour. They, however, were all sacked. Mr Heseltine would have risked his own accord, and on an issue which in times to come can be presented as a last principled stand for "enlightened intervention", "true Europeanism", whatever is the most useful slogan for the hour.

It is hard to escape gracefully from Mrs Thatcher's shadow but it is a journey which all aspiring successors will have to take at some time. The party will prefer not to choose its new organ grinder from its old monkeys, and Mr Heseltine knows it. Successful defiance of Mrs Thatcher will distance him from her. So will a "principled" resignation, even probably a sacking, as long as there is wide enough support on his side. Mr Heseltine hopes that this is the issue on which he cannot lose.

Those are the issues that ambitious politicians like.

It may perhaps be argued in the Defence Secretary's cause that his European solution is simply the correct one for Westland and that, if the company Chairman, Sir John Cuckney, and his fellow directors cannot see that, it is up to men of greater wisdom to bring true light to the unbelievers. Mr Heseltine may indeed be a man of greater wisdom than Sir John. But Westland shareholders may equally well ask themselves what the Defence Secretary was doing earlier last year while their company was on the brink of death from debt, while their Chairman was arranging the Sikorsky rescue and while their would-be European collaborators were laughing all the way to the undertakers. They might ask themselves why Aerospatiale and the rest of Mr Heseltine's team appeared only when the Sikorsky plan promised to turn Westland into a fiercer competitor instead of a dead one.

Westland shareholders will be hearing shortly from Sir John in advance of the company's meeting of January 14. The board will be failing in its duty to them if it does not both put the rival offers clearly before them and strongly recommend one of them. If the shareholders do not like the recommendation they can overturn it - and the board too.

At this stage in the Westland saga it may seem that no one has much to lose, not the shareholders, not Mr Brittan, not Mrs Thatcher very much, not Sir John nor Mr Heseltine. But when ministers accuse one another in public of "material inaccuracy" and in the company of lobby journalists of much worse; when profitable manufacturing under US licence is derided as "tin bashing"; when links between a failed UK manufacturer and one of the world's leading high-tech companies is called a "drain of British technology"; when established European partnerships are disturbed by angry threats; when latent anti-Americanism is raised in Europe in order to place a no-lose political bid at home; then something is surely lost.

EXPRESSWAY TO FRANCE

The Channel has two shores and the fixed Channel link will join two nations. That basic fact is the very essence of the dream that has fired the English and French for two centuries. Yet the British have tended to forget it in discussing the correct choice for "our" great project. The French, with their added tradition of chauvinism, could be relied on to feel the same. The need for the two nations to agree the details of a single scheme, from a group of contenders now whittled down to three, has necessarily dominated the process of choice, effectively ruling out the traditional British planning system with its emphasis on public enquiry. The two peoples must trust their better-informed governments. Today talks between the Transport Secretary Mr Nicholas Ridley and his French counterpart will aim to agree a decision in principle to put to their respective governments.

It is to be hoped that Mr Ridley will be able to present an agreed choice to the Cabinet on Thursday. Far more important, however, is that this symbol of the joining of Britain and the Continent should not degenerate into last-minute Brussels-style wranglings and half-hearted compromises based on narrow national interests against deadlines imposed by the French election on the one hand and commitments by Mrs Thatcher on the other.

The choice must be made clearly against a number of tests relating to transport, the environment and finance. The fixed link must be seen as a once-and-for-all project that is likely to close further options or postpone them indefinitely. It should therefore aim to cope flexibly with different forms of transport at rising volumes. It should minimize the danger of any monopoly fixed link that it could be strangled by accident, by trade union or other industrial action or even by terrorist attack.

The French, who are likely to provide less traffic, are more concerned with a rail link to tie in with their expensively developed railway system. The British, whose freight and passenger traffic is dominated by road vehicles, must practically lean to the fastest, cheapest and most convenient road vehicle link. That potential source of conflict should actually help the decision since it points to solutions with plenty of scope for both rail and road traffic.

Long-term environmental damage will be reduced if there is emphasis on through traffic rather than large amounts of local marshalling, warehousing and queuing. Customs arrangements will inevitably affect that and will need to be reformed.

The financial viability of the schemes is equally important. They would be privately financed and built, but if the consortium company failed before the link was completed, the burden would inevitably fall on taxpayers if only because two governments are involved.

Ministers should, therefore, view the project as if they were cautious bankers and investors and insist on the maximum of risk capital being put up by their promoters as well as an eventual overall 20 per cent minimum of risk capital.

The decision would be easy if any of the schemes won on all these tests. Reality is harder, for each has both strengths and weaknesses. Although the full results of the vetting committees are not public, the twin rail tunnel proposed by the Channel Tunnel Group appears to have won in terms of financial viability, sound funding and engineering simplicity based on tried principles. The French seem particularly persuaded. Those very virtues, however, are based on having only two-bored tunnels,

which makes the scheme deficient on transport and, perhaps, environmental tests. While it can cope with both through trains and with road vehicles, it has no facility to drive across the Channel. Loading vehicles onto shuttle trains implies large facilities at either end, threatening the green fields of Kent. It is also most vulnerable to industrial action.

At the opposite end, the ambitious Euro Route is financially well-backed but seems intrinsically the most expensive, particularly because the submerged-tube rail tunnels are completely separate and rail cannot be integrated with the bridge/tunnel roadway. This scheme offers more construction jobs but carries the greatest risk.

The third option, the Channel Expressway, offers through its four bored tunnels a basically cheaper method of achieving the same transport ends as Euro-Route. The doubts on its costing and design stem chiefly from its late entry and hefty late changes. Expressway has been promoted by an American Mr James Sherwood and uses Japanese technology to ventilate its drive-through tunnels. Such considerations should be irrelevant. A more important objection is that it does not as yet have such solid financing, particularly of equity capital, as the other two.

Mr Sherwood insists that this would follow the choice of his system and that he has the countervailing virtue of intending to be the tunnel's operator and thus more concerned with the best design. There is some truth in that.

Certainly, the British government should not cramp the potential of the Expressway by imposing artificial deadlines or bowing to the relative apathy across the Channel. It will need to explain how any other choice offers a better combination of sound economics and an exciting project worthy of this historic choice.

These may appear injustices to some, but their Lordships considered them a matter for Parliament unless the consequences are so absurd that "the secretary of state must have taken leave of his senses", which is exactly what Buckinghamshire ratepayers will think when they face a rate rise of some 30 per cent next year. Their Lordships' decision has given full effect to Patrick Jenkin's assessment that we live in a unitary state. Members of Parliament who soon face election should consider

very carefully the ways and means and the pace at which the secretary of state is redistributing national income in their name, presenting so many councillors with a position of accountability without power to match it. In restating Buckinghamshire's case, and there is none more logical and justified, Dr Phillips (December 31) makes a plea for local government which it will be unwise for Parliament to ignore. Yours faithfully, ROGER PARKER-JERVIS, Estate Office, Great Hampden, Great Missenden, Buckinghamshire.

Turn of the screw

From Mr Roger Parker-Jervis Sir, The House of Lords have decided (Law Report, December 13) that it is constitutionally inappropriate for the courts to intervene in any dispute between a local authority and the secretary of state over the limits he sets for local spending. Their Lordships noted that his decisions may disproportionately disadvantage one ratepayer compared with another - who may be only a few yards apart, across a county boundary - and, more particularly, compared with tax-

Drink and driving taken to extremes

From Dr Brian Dennison

Sir, Surely many thousands of law-abiding citizens must be dismayed by your report today (January 3) about the attempt by the Association of Chief Police Officers to make driving with any alcohol in the bloodstream an offence.

The social life of many who call in for a tranquilizing beverage on the way home from work, and still remain well within the present legal limit, would be seriously disrupted, without any certainty of any beneficial effect on accident statistics.

More seriously, yet a further step would be taken in the direction of sequestration of the policeman from the rest of society as one who is involved in the punishment of the average person for doing something which, logically, neither the so-called offender, nor the average policeman, could regard as wrong - namely, driving with an ultimate level of, say, 5 mg per cent of alcohol in the blood, the equivalent of one sixth of a glass of beer, or three teaspoons of whisky.

Surely the beneficial effects of the reintroduction of community policing would, to a large extent, be undone if ill-considered measures of this nature were undertaken.

Also, it would be completely illegal to ban, in the interests of safety, the presence of alcohol in the bloodstream without, at the same time, banning driving by the countless legions consuming tranquilizers, anti-histamines and other central nervous system depressants.

Responsible, senior policemen should in these troubled times, be wary about the possibility of laying

themselves open to charges of overzealous and officious interference in personal liberties, and to that of acquisition of easy personal publicity by the initiation of so-called crusades.

Yours faithfully, BRIAN DENNISON, Rosehill, Newton Road, Great Ayton, North Yorkshire, January 3.

From Dr Walter Hedgcock

Sir, About 30 years ago I was the secretary of the committee, chaired by Professor Wayne, which produced the early BMA reports on the effects of alcohol on driving, which led to the current drinking and driving legislation.

Even then it was quite clear to us that any intake of alcohol impaired the efficiency of any driver. This has been recognised in many other forms of transport: those in charge of aircraft, ships and trains must not drink.

The chief constables who are urging some diminution in the legally permitted level of alcohol in the blood to those driving on the roads must be encouraged to go the whole way, so that those who drink at all have to leave driving to those who have not drunk at all. Already there are countries where any alcohol in the blood is an absolute legal bar to driving.

Yours sincerely, WALTER HEDGCOCK, 9 Cherwell Close, Wallingford, Oxfordshire, January 4.

Police and public

From Mr James Rusbridge

Sir, Two points arise from Sir Kenneth Newman's reply (feature, December 29) to Bernard Levin (December 17). First, according to the Home Office's own research study, *Contacts between Police and Public*, (no. 77, May, 1984), fewer than one in 10 members of the public, who feel aggrieved by some police action, actually bother to make a formal complaint. This is because the majority, especially young people from ethnic communities, believe it would be a waste of time.

It follows, therefore, that any fall in the overall number of complaints does not necessarily reflect a growing confidence in policemen amongst these groups, which were the people Bernard Levin was particularly referring to.

Secondly, why does it take the police so long to investigate even a simple complaint, such as raiding the wrong house or arresting the wrong person? It is not unusual for such investigations to take many months (one in Cornwall took over a year), when plainly such matters could be dealt with in 48 hours.

The impression is that the police deliberately drag their feet in the hope that the complainant and the media will lose interest, and others will be deterred from complaining in the future.

Yours faithfully, JAMES RUSBRIDGE, 7 Traouena Road, St Austell, Cornwall, December 30.

From Professor N. Kurti, FRS

Sir, Having read Sir Kenneth Newman's article (December 28) in which he characterizes Mr Levin's piece (December 17) as "long on rhetoric and short on fact" I expected it to be an unsubstantiated attack on the police, full of colourful invective; instead I found, to my surprise, Mr Levin at his most urbane and tolerant. Referring briefly to the tragic incidents of Mr Waldorf, Mrs Croce and Mrs Jarrett he conceded that they could be

asccribed to "advanced cases of jittery about the boys in blue" ("boys", not "bullies").

The remaining four-fifths of Mr Levin's article describes, with the full facts, the case of Mr Wilson and Miss Farbridge. Yet Sir Kenneth does not even mention this case but gives statistics suggesting that the shortcomings of the police are out as serious as they are made out to be. This is like discouraging a critical discussion of the safety of air travel on the grounds that only a tiny fraction of passengers is killed in accidents.

It is hardly surprising that one should feel bewildered when one notices that the Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police does not answer factual criticism of the behaviour of the force under his command and, in particular, does not say whether, to use Mr Levin's excellent wording, he is "willing to take rapid, ruthless and well publicized action" to root out the behaviour displayed in that case.

Yours faithfully, N. KURTI, Brasenose College, Oxford.

From Mrs Lorna Twycross-Lewis Sir, How glad I was to read in today's *Times* (December 31) the report of the new code for police practice which runs, "a person's colour can never be a reasonable ground for suspicion" nor their mode of dress.

The only man courteous enough to open a door for me during a hectic post-Christmas shopping trip the other day was dressed head to foot in black leather, with a black mohican hair cut and rings through his nose.

There was nothing in it for him. I am middle-aged, with children, a mortgage, and a harassed air; nothing to suggest the law student (second year at university) which in fact I am. Yours faithfully, LORNA TWYXCROSS-LEWIS, 7 Cherry Street, Old Town, Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire, December 31.

Lessons from Swiss

From Dr Leslie A. Hill

Sir, One of my daughters is married to a Swiss and I visit them regularly. I was therefore particularly interested in what Mr W. Farr had to say (December 27) about the virtues of the Swiss.

However, I was surprised that he played down the role of defence in shaping the Swiss character. The Swiss have never forgotten their years of foreign occupation. The meaning of their character is therefore a fanatical love of liberty. Since this requires hard work and unity, they work hard and are unified.

I do not know how the ratio of defence expenditure to GNP or per capita in Switzerland compares with that in other countries, but I do

know that the Swiss individual devotes far more time and energy to defence than any other individual I know.

Every house one builds has to have an adequate nuclear fallout shelter. And one's military service is not finished after one has done the first few years: one continues to be called up for refresher courses every year until one is considered too old for this, and throughout one's life one dresses one's fellow trainees as to whenever one meets them, whether they are bank managers or dustmen.

I remain, Sir, your obedient servant, L. A. HILL, La Prairie, St Mary, Jersey, Channel Islands, December 27.

Mental health

From his Honour Judge Alistair Bell

Sir, The National Director of MIND may have been right to say in your columns (December 21), "Government must recognise the need to develop comprehensive local mental health services". But several years ago, whenever one meets them, whether they are bank managers or dustmen, I remain, Sir, your obedient servant, L. A. HILL, La Prairie, St Mary, Jersey, Channel Islands, December 27.

Instead admission must await some incapacity to manage at subsistence level, with approaching hunger, disease or physical catastrophe.

For those capable, given regular treatment, of living normal lives, the present practice fails to react in time to the refusal of further treatment, which often occurs; and thus after more psychological and social damage has been done, it imposes too much treatment, too late.

The Law Report (December 28) of the case of *R v Hallstrom* makes it clear that if treatment is to be given without the patient's consent, it can only be given, under the present Act, to an in-patient who is in hospital for a significant time.

Surely if there is firm diagnosis of the nature of the illness, the aim should be to enter the cyclical decline and by prompt treatment prevent it reaching distressing proportions. This will require a change of practice and possibly amendment of the 1983 Act, in addition to further local resources.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully, ALISTAIR BELL, The Manchester Club, 30 Spring Gardens, Manchester, January 1.

Keeping our kith and kin at bay

From Mr M. J. Bedford

Sir, I write in support of Mr Simon Winchester's excellent article, "Britons kept at arm's length" (December 27) and trust that his words will be seriously read and acted upon by those responsible in Westminster and Whitehall. For too long, the remaining colonies have been badly neglected and as we enter the New Year, the time has surely come to put matters right.

Firstly, greater financial assistance should be made available to territories such as St Helena, Tristan da Cunha, Anguilla, Pitcairn and others, together with an undertaking to improve communications between them and the United Kingdom.

Secondly, the responsibility for all colonies, with the obvious exception of Hong Kong, should be removed from the control of the Foreign Office and handed over to a newly-created Dependencies Office with a secretary of state who would have a seat in the Cabinet.

Thirdly, positive planning for the constitutional future of these territories should be implemented with two alternatives to be offered: either full integration with the United Kingdom along the lines of the French overseas departments, or a federal relationship which would mean that the British Government exercised sovereignty together with certain internal duties, whilst local governments carried out day-to-day administration.

Perhaps a royal commission could examine both possibilities? Yours faithfully, M. J. BEDFORD, 11 Vincent Road, Stoke D'Abernon, Cobham, Surrey, December 30.

No honour for Geldof

From Mr B. J. Boughton

Sir, Your correspondent in today's *Times* (January 2) is offering no implausible support for the exclusion of Bob Geldof from the New Year's Honours list. If his Irish citizenship were a serious obstacle, then surely one of the British citizens who helped to organize Band Aid could have received an award on behalf of the millions who contributed?

And concerning services to the United Kingdom and the Commonwealth, what about the British grain, and British ships which were purchased by Band Aid and the prestige such humanitarianism brings to this country?

Seen in this light, the decision by Mrs Thatcher has all the hallmarks of a personal snub and compares unfavourably with her willingness to establish and maintain Fortress Falklands on a mere point of principle. Yours sincerely, B. J. BOUGHTON, 63 Fitzroy Avenue, Harborne, Birmingham, January 2.

Risks of bottle banks

From Mrs Gillian Wyatt

Sir, Bottle banks have been introduced in many areas of this country for the re-cycling of glass. However, it would seem to be questionable whether this basically good idea is really helping the environment.

The general public indiscriminately dumps its cardboard boxes and plastic bags alongside bottle banks while salvaging its ecological conscience. In addition, bottles are frequently broken when council vehicles empty the banks, so that the surrounding area becomes unsightly and dangerous to children.

Anti-litter education is essential, beginning with the adult population. Yours faithfully, GILLIAN WYATT, 148 Thurlow Park Road, West Dulwich, SE21, January 3.

Passing the buck

From Mr Alan Liddicoat

Sir, Like your correspondent from Lanarkshire (January 2) for some time I crowded with self-satisfaction at my arduous practice of returning unsolicited mail in other people's envelopes. I do so no longer.

Old, isolated, and alone, I look forward with pleasure to the postman's friendly visit most days of the week. He would not call as often but for "junk" mail. In any case much of it is interesting, like window shopping, even if useless.

Another thing, our parish receives a steady income from a waste paper collection. The glossy and heavy "junk" is money in the bank. Keep it coming, I say. Do nothing to discourage it. Yours faithfully, ALAN LIDDICOAT, The Elms, Stoford Water, Kentisbeare, Culmpton, Devon, January 3.

Repeat performance?

From Mr David Wolfe

Sir, Mr David Robinson's article (December 28), on the 90th birthday of cinema, projects a new light on French gastronomy of the time.

Presumably memories of the consumption of much of the population of the Zoo during the 1870 siege of Paris were still fresh in the memory of the Lumiere's audience who "were charmed by shots of Auguste's daughter eating and watching goldfish".

Yours faithfully, DAVID WOLFE, 13 Greycoat Gardens, Greycoat Street, SW1, December 28.

ON THIS DAY

JANUARY 7 1984

It is now not unusual to read of the Pope on his pilgrimages. Twenty two years ago the visit of Paul VI (born 1897; pontificate 1963-78) to the Holy Land created a precedent for no less 1809 had a Pope left Italy. On January 6 another historic occasion took place when he met the head of the Orthodox Church the first such meeting between the leaders of the two Churches since the schism of 1054.

THE POPE TALKS WITH PATRIARCH

From Our Middle East Correspondent Jerusalem Jan 6

"The two pilgrims, with their eyes fixed on Christ, the exemplar and author, with the Father, of unity and peace, pray God that this meeting may be the sign and prelude of things to come for the glory of God and the illumination of his faithful people. After so many centuries of silence they have now come together in the desire of putting the Lord's will into effect and of passing on the sacred truth of his Gospel entrusted to the Church."

In these words Pope VI and the Oecumenical Patriarch Athanasios of the Orthodox Church ended the two meetings they held in Jerusalem. A statement issued by the Pope and the Patriarch, in agreement with his Synod, had together acknowledged the great significance of this event and the meeting could not be considered otherwise than as a fraternal gesture.

After last night's first meeting, when the two leaders recited the Lord's Prayer together, the second took place today. The Pope said that the Patriarch had described a meeting "ever since the time of our unforgettable predecessor John XXIII" and that Pope Leo had yearned for it, but his death prevented him realizing his desire.

FRATERNAL CHARITY Looking ahead, the Pope added: "Divergence of a doctrinal, liturgical, and disciplinary nature will have to be examined at the proper time and place in a spirit of fidelity to the truth and of understanding in charity. What can and must now come is the development of that fraternal charity which is ingenious in finding out new ways of showing itself, which, taking its lessons from the past, is ready to pardon, more ready to believe, more than evil, careful above all to conform itself to the Divine Master and allow itself to be drawn and transformed by him."

On leaving, the Pope said it was not Godfrey he was seeking but Anselm, based upon the hope of other fruitful meetings "in nomine Domini". This event was the apex during the Pope's pilgrimage of his quest for unity, but he did not overlook other common concerns. He stressed the unity in his full Christian sense. Having already seen the Oriental Catholic and Greek Orthodox leaders, today he received the heads here of the Anglican, Syrian Orthodox, Ethiopian and Lutheran Churches.

The pace of the past three days has been merciless for everyone, and the Pope was showing signs of strain when early today he arrived at the Church of the Nativity, Bethlehem, for his final service. The mountain of distance across the Dead Sea in the distance were beginning to outline themselves in the morning glow when he reached Christ's birthplace.

It was a razor-edge commentary on the later exchanges with Patriarch Athanasios that, after stooping through the half-size door that gives entry into the Church of the Nativity, the Pope could not go straight to the Grotto of the Nativity where he was to say low Mass. He could go because that would be to take him straight through the Greek Orthodox and the Orthodox leaders had not approved this. Therefore, he went left to St Jerome's cloister and St Catherine's Church and afterwards came back to the Nativity Grotto under the basilica.

MESSAGE TO WORLD Today was Christmas Eve for the Copts and also the Greek Orthodox and Syrian Orthodox, who, after the Pope had gone, in turn held ceremonies also. After offering mass, the Pope, standing in the marble manger in the tiny Grotto of the Nativity, addressed a message to the Christian Church and another to the world. By the "world", he meant, he said, all who looked on Christianity from the outside as if they were strangers to it.

First, the Pope said, to Christ he bore, as once the Magi did in that place, symbolic gifts; he was referring to a golden rose which already had been placed on the 14-point star near the manger.

Secondly, this was the historic hour in which the Church must correspond with Christ's wish "that they may be perfectly one."

"We must pursue our Ecumenical Council in its conclusion. We must give to the Church's life new attitudes of mind, new aims, new standards of conduct so as to endow it with every form of spiritual beauty in thought, word, and prayer, in methods of education and in the life of the Church."

"This calls for a concerted effort in which every section of the Church must play its part. May each one give ear to the invitation which Christ is making through our voice..."

Sleepers awake

From the Reverend David A. Huntley

Sir, Professor Ian Fells asks (December 28) whether a longitudinal bunk would not be more sleep-inducing than the present BR sleeper design, in which they are always transverse to the rails.

I have asked myself the same question, especially after riding on trains a lot less smooth than BR's. Lateral movement when one is in a transverse bunk does appear to be less restful.

However, in southeast Asia one may still find sleeping cars of all types: those similar to BR's, as well as the older open bunk layout, and with transverse and longitudinal beds in either style.

After a score of rides in all types, both air-conditioned and not, I have come to the conclusion that sleep in sleeping cars is not a function of travel direction, but of freshness and that lack of anything on my mind to keep me awake!

Yours faithfully, DAVID A. HUNTLEY, c/o 55 Essenden Road, South Croydon, Surrey.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

SANDRINGHAM
January 6: Today being the Feast of Epiphany a Sung Eucharist was held in the Chapel Royal, St James's Palace, when the customary offerings of Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh were made on behalf of the Queen by Mr Carter, Organist and Chief Marshal Sir Neville Sturt (Gentlemen Ushers to Her Majesty).

The Bishop of London (Dean of Her Majesty's Chapel Royal) and the Celebrant and presented the Offerings, assisted by the Reverend Canon Anthony Caesar (Sub-Dean of Her Majesty's Chapel Royal) and the Reverend William Booth (Priest in Ordinary).

The Queen's Body Guard of the Yeoman of the Guard was on duty in the Chapel.

COURT AND SOCIAL

the Chairman of James W. Cooke & Co Ltd (Mr Leonard Ray).
Wing Commander Adam Wize was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
January 6: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, was present this evening at a Concert given by Barry Manilow at Wembley Arena in aid of the National Association of Boys' Clubs.

Mrs Jane Stevens was in attendance.

Princess Anne will open the Institute of London Underwriters building, Leadenhall Street, EC3, on April 29.

The Duchess of Kent will attend the concert to finals of BBC television's "Young Musicians of the Year" competition at the Free Trade Hall, Manchester, on April 24.

Birthdays today

Mr Hunter Davies, 50; Vice-Admiral Sir John Collins, 87; Mr Gerald Durrell, 61; Sir James Harford, 87; Sir Raymond Jenou, 81; Mr Tom Kier, 41; General Sir Gordon MacMillan of MacMillan, 89; Sir John Page, 71; Sir Alastair Pilkington, FRS, 66; Colonel Sir John Johnston, 75; Professor K. W. Sykes, 65; Lord Taylor of Hadding, 81; Air Commodore the Hon Sir Peter Vaneck, MEP, 64.

Mr S. A. J. J. Barrages
The engagement is announced between the only son of Mr and Mrs G. R. J. R. of Wimbledon, London, and Caroline Jane, only daughter of Mr and Mrs G. R. Barrages, of Upper Morton, Avon.

Mr S. W. H. Lacey
The engagement is announced between Stephen, younger son of the late Mr H. D. Lacey and of Mrs Lacey, of Windsor, Berkshire, and Caroline, daughter of Major and Mrs C. G. Wemyss, of Upham, Hampshire.

Mr P. Holden
and Miss H. Stainforth
The engagement is announced between Philip, younger stepson of Mrs A. Holden, of Chelmsford, Essex, and daughter of Mr and Mrs Graham Stainforth, of Wallingford, Oxfordshire.

Mr A. I. Youlton
and Miss A. C. Heath
The engagement is announced between Anthony, son of Mr and Mrs E. V. J. Youlton, of Lindfield, Sussex, and Alison, daughter of Mr and Mrs D. J. Heath, of Haywards Heath, Sussex.

Marriages

Mr M. C. Bellamy
and Miss N. K. Hammond
The marriage took place on Saturday, December 14, 1985, at St James's Church, Teignmouth, Devon, between Mr Martin Clifford Bellamy, son of Dr and Mrs Frank Bellamy, and Miss Nicola Karen Hammond, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Dudley Hammond. The Rev P. Luff officiated.

The bride was attended by Miss Julia Hammond. Mr Kevin Norrell was best man.

Mr A. M. Clark
and Miss L. Lloyd Owen
The marriage took place at the Dean Row Unitarian Chapel, Windsor, on Saturday, December 21, 1985, between Mr Mark Clark, second son of Mr and Mrs Ernest R. Clark, of Cardiff, and Miss Louise Lloyd Owen, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Roger Lloyd Owen, of Dean Row, Windsor, Cheshire. The Rev Penelope Laws officiated.

The bride was given away by her father and attended by Miss Chibaud. Mr John Moorhouse was the best man.

Science report

Rare shrub reintroduced to island
By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

Scientists from the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew have ensured the survival of a rare shrub on the island of St Helena in a project to protect the remote south Atlantic island's fragile flora from further erosion.

The success of the "green glue" project, they believe, offers hope for arid land conservation in Ethiopia and other African countries.

The last surviving specimen of a plant known as St Helena aster (*Comastidium rotundifolium*) had been rescued by Mr Simon Goodenough, a horticulturist and one of the garden supervisors at Kew.

He had to overcome his fear of heights and lower himself on ropes down a cliff on the island to reach the plant, a feat of tree descent.

The large shrub had played an important part in holding down erosion-prone slopes on part of the island's coastal zone, but it was reduced to near-extinction by more than a century of overgrazing and other factors.

Mr Goodenough took the solitary specimen back from the south Atlantic to Kew for intensive care and propagation with a view to reintroduction under a careful programme of protection of the island's soil.

Two years have passed since then and there are now more than 1,000 of the plants growing on St Helena, proving that some rare endemic plants can become re-established, even in the most barren landscapes.

"In effect, such plants glue the land together," Mr Goodenough said. "They hold the soil together in their mesh of deep roots and create a microclimate which helps other plants and fertility-enhancing soil microbes to get established."



Admiral Sir Simon Cassels and Lady Cassels, who appear to be taking a relaxed drive in an open 1924 Bentley in the grounds of the Royal Naval College, Greenwich, were, in fact, being hauled with ropes by about 20 naval officers. Sir Simon was relinquishing his appointment yesterday as Admiral President of the Royal Naval College, and the hauling away was the land-based version of the tradition that admirals were rowed ashore by their senior officers when they gave up their command. Admiral Cassels is being succeeded as Chief of Naval Personnel and Second Sea Lord, and Admiral President at Greenwich, by Admiral Sir Richard Fitch (Bill Warburton).

Latest appointments

Mrs Joan Clancy, aged 46, Headmistress of St George's School, Edinburgh, for the past 10 years, is to be Headmistress of the North London Collegiate School in succession to Miss Madeline McLaughlin, who retired on December 31.

Other appointments include: The Rev R. N. Keaward to be honorary chaplain to the Queen in succession to the Rev T. I. Wilson.

Sir Veerasingh Ringadoo to be Governor-General and Commander-in-Chief of Mauritius from January 17.

Mr R. L. Ormond, aged 45, head of the picture department of the National Maritime Museum, to be director of the museum in succession to Dr Neil Cossans, who has been appointed director of the Science Museum.

Church news

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Protection promise for Stonehenge

English Heritage said yesterday that it would "protect" Stonehenge if there was any risk of a hippy invasion in the summer.

The ancient monuments organization said nobody would be allowed into the stone circle for the traditional summer celebrations if too many turned up.

Cinema admissions up by 35%

By David Hewson, Arts Correspondent

The British Film Year campaign, restoring the flagging fortunes of the domestic cinema, may become a permanent organization after the end of the campaign later this year.

Film executives are talking about the organization and funding to take over the campaign's work which is thought to be largely responsible for a 35 per cent increase in cinema admissions in the first 10 months of last year.

The British Film Year has organized road shows and promotional events throughout Britain as part of a domestic campaign which ends in March. The foreign programme continues until May, with the main objective being a strong British presence at the Cannes Film Festival.

Mr Keith Howes, the organization's publicity officer, said yesterday: "A lot of meetings are going on about the future but nothing is decided about what sort of organization might be the result or how it would be funded."

"Our steering committee will be discussing the idea in a few weeks, but it will have to be something which appeals to the whole of the film industry."

The campaign employs about eighteen people full-time from a headquarters in Soho in central London. The unit has exceeded its original aim of raising cinema attendances by 4 per cent, helped by poor summer weather, a spate of popular films, and a general trend towards leisure pursuits outside the home.

Its peripheral activities, such as persuading the Post Office to issue stamps bearing portraits of British stars and an education programme encouraging the use of films in schools, are thought to have raised public awareness. The campaign estimates that its free publicity would have cost £6 million to buy as advertising.

An independent report on the organization produced by the management consultancy division of Deloitte Haskins and Sells, supports the organization's claims of success, although it criticizes it for setting over-ambitious objectives and for being confused about them.

But the report concludes: "It is our opinion... that the industry should seek to consolidate the recent achievements of the British Film Year and create a permanent successor."

In the context of a flourishing film and cinema market, an effective publicity machine could do much to maintain the recent rise in cinema attendances. Such a body would thus contribute to the future of the British film and cinema industry."

Weekly cinema admissions

	1984	1985
(millions)		
January	1.01	1.66
February	0.97	1.58
March	0.78	1.19
April	1.12	1.39
May	0.94	0.90
June	0.93	0.82
July	1.18	1.42
August	1.22	1.87
September	0.92	1.29
October	0.94	1.43
November	0.99	0.99

Schools

City of London School
Spring Term begins today and ends on March 27. Entrance and scholarship examinations will be held on February 3, 4 and 5. The joint concert will be given in the Barbican Hall on Sunday, March 9 (tickets available from the school) and there will be four performances of the school play, *Love's Labour's Lost*, on the evenings of March 19 and 22. Applications for sixth-form scholarships and places should be made by February 14.

Friern Barnet Grammar School
Spring Term begins today. Boys wishing to enter the school in September 1986, at age eleven, should sit the entrance examination on Friday, January 10, 1986. This term's school charity is War on Want. Term ends on March 27.

Girls' Public Day School Trust
Spring Term for the twenty-four schools of the Girls' Public Day School Trust will begin this week; half-term will be during the week of February 17. Mrs Kathleen Irving, Chairwoman of the Trust, will be at Birkenhead High School as from September 1986 on the retirement of Miss Freda Kilduff.

St Dunstan's College
Leat Term begins today and ends on Wednesday, March 26, with the school leaving day on Thursday, March 27. Teideman is head of school. Productions by the dramatic society of *The Visit* will be on March 5, 6 and 7 and the preparatory department's production of *Sweeney Todd* will be on March 24 and 25. The entrance and scholarship examinations will take place on February 4.

Holmwood School
Spring Term starts today. The school production of *Joseph and his Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat* will be held on March 14 and 15. After last term's centenary reunion, Holmwood is compiling a register of students prior to 1953, and would welcome details as appropriate. From April we shall be admitting boys to a reception class from the age of 4½.

Church news

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OBITUARY

UNA MERKEL

Hollywood character actress

Una Merkel, the American film actress, has died in Los Angeles at the age of 82.

A round-faced, large-eyed blonde, she got her chance in films because of her resemblance to the great silent star, Lillian Gish, and was her stand-in in two D. W. Griffith pictures of the early 1920s, *Way Down East* and *The White Rose*.

In 1924, Merkel had the leading part in *The Fifth Horseman*, but the film made little impact and for the next few years she concentrated on the stage and appeared in several productions on Broadway.

Her cinema come-back came in 1930 when she was cast as Ann Rutledge opposite Walter Huston in Griffith's *Abraham Lincoln*, and in 1933 she was in the musical *42nd Street*.

During the 1930s she appeared in dozens of films, sometimes as a comic lead with Harold Lloyd and others, but most often in supporting roles as the heroine's wisecracking girlfriend. In 1939 she took part in a memorable saloon brawl with Marlene Dietrich in the comedy Western, *Destry Rides Again*.

She was with Bob Hope and Bing Crosby in one of the early "Road" pictures, *Road to Zanzibar*, and continued to make films until well into the 1960s. The most notable of her later roles was as Geraldine Page's mother in the 1961 screen version of Tennessee Williams's play, *Summer and Smoke*.

She won a Tony award for her performance in the Broadway show, *The Powder Heart*, in 1956.

She was with Bob Hope and



Una Merkel in *42nd Street*

PROFESSOR F. J. TURNER

Professor E. A. Vincent writes: Professor Francis John Turner, one of the most distinguished petrologists of his generation, died on December 21 in Berkeley, California, aged 81.

Born and educated in New Zealand, Turner remained at the University of Otago until the end of the war. He made signal contributions to the understanding of New Zealand geology, particularly the metamorphic rocks, and, at the same time, acquired an encyclopaedic knowledge of current petrological problems.

In 1946 he moved to the University of California in Berkeley where he was to remain for the rest of his life. His research concentrated on the processes of rock metamorphism in which field he pioneered the application of thermodynamics and reaction kinetics on a time-scale inconceivably long to the traditional chemist.

Turner's special interest in metamorphic rocks, since prompted his wife's reply when asked at a cocktail party given for an international conference of

MR JOHN CRONIN

Mr John Desmond Cronin, FRCS, Labour member of Parliament for the Loughborough division of Leicestershire from 1955 to 1979, has been found dead near his home in Hampshire. It is believed that he may have had a heart attack after falling from his horse. He was 69. He was Opposition Whip in the Commons from 1959 to 1962. Born on March 1, 1916, he was the son of John Patrick Cronin. He was educated at London University, and in 1939 became MRCS, LRCP. The following year he passed his MB, BS (London) and in 1947 qualified as FRCS (England). He was house surgeon at St Bartholomew's Hospital in 1939-1940, and Surgeon EMS at the Royal Free Hospital in 1941-1942. He served during the war in the RAMC, from 1942-1946 in the campaigns in Burma, France and Germany as a surgical specialist.

Cronin joined the Labour party in 1947, and for a time was adviser on industrial injuries to a number of trade unions. From 1947 to 1951 he was orthopaedic surgeon at the Prince of Wales's Hospital, and in 1948 was appointed to a similar post at the Frosch Hospital.

He was made a Chevalier of the Legion of Honour in 1960 and an Officer in 1967. He was vice-chairman of the North St Pancras Labour Party in 1950, and was a member of the LCC from 1952 to 1955.

He married, in 1941, Cora, daughter of Rowland Mumby-Croft. They were one son and two daughters of the marriage.

SIR JOHN HOWARD

Sir John Howard, FICE, who died on January 2 at the age of 84, founded the firm of John Howard and Company, PLC, an engineering contractor in 1927. He was chairman and managing director of that concern from that year until 1982 and from 1982 had been president.

After schooling at Bedford he studied at Erith Technical College. Having proved his flair for administration and enterprise in the creation of his own firm he began to take a close interest in politics in what were, for most Conservatives, the grim years of 1946-47.

His gifts were soon recognized and he became chairman of the Eastern Area of the Conservative and Unionist Association, treasurer and then president. He was appointed chairman of the National Union of the party in 1962 and in that year presided over the Conservative Conference at Llandudno.

His political interests did not impede the progress of his company which laid down the foundations for the Forth Road Bridge and the Severn Bridge.

Howard was not slow to see the significance of the battle for a third London airport and became chairman of Thames Estuary Development, a group which included civil engineering and property companies, Southern Corporation, Shell and Rio Tinto Zinc. This body developed that Foulness could be developed as an airport and a seaport.

Howard was knighted in 1954. He was a Deputy Lieutenant for Bedfordshire. He married in 1931 Margaret Mary, daughter of H. E. Kemp. They had three sons and a daughter.

MR J. E. MARNHAM

Mr John Ewart Marnham, CMG, MC, TD, Ambassador to Tunisia from 1973 to 1975, died on December 28 at the age of 69.

The son of Colonel A.E. Marnham, MC, he was educated at Mill Hill and Jesus College, Cambridge. He joined the Colonial Office in 1938.

He served with the British Expeditionary Force in France in 1939-40 and with the British Army of Liberation in 1944-45. He was awarded a Military Cross in 1944 and for his service was mentioned in despatches.

He was promoted Assistant Under-Secretary of State at the Consul-General in Johannesburg from 1967 to 1970.

From 1977 to 1981 he was a Clerk in the Committee Office of the House of Commons. In 1955 he was made CMG. He married in 1944 Susan, elder daughter of Walter Foster. They had two sons.

SIR LINCOLN STEEL

Sir Lincoln Steel, who died on December 27 at the age of 85, was chairman of Triplex Holdings from 1961 to 1966.

Educated at Christ's Hospital and St John's College, Oxford, where he was an Open Scholar, he joined Brunner, Mond in 1922 after war service in the Royal Engineers. He was made managing director of the Alkali division of ICI in 1942, and in the following year chairman; he was a director of ICI from 1945 to 1960.

From 1963 to 1965 he was chairman of the International Chamber of Commerce and from the latter year honorary president. He was chairman of the overseas committee of the Confederation of British Industries from 1965 to 1968.

He had been a Justice of the Peace for Cheshire and for Buckinghamshire. He was knighted in 1965. He was twice married.

Law Report January 7 1986

False name merely preparatory to offence

Regina v Widdowson
Before Lord Justice Ackner, Mr Justice Drake and Mr Justice Saville [Judgment delivered December 19]

A man who provided a false name and address on a form used for inquiries to be made whether he was creditworthy for hire-purchase, was not guilty of attempting to obtain services by deception.

The Court of Appeal so held in giving reserved reasons for having allowed an appeal by Stanley Widdowson, aged 37, a cleaning contractor, of Thetford, against conviction after a two-day trial at Bury St Edmunds Crown Court (Judge Turner and a jury). He was sentenced to three months imprisonment suspended for a year, fined £100 and ordered to pay costs.

Mr R. D. Roebuck, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the appellant, Mr Graham Parkins for the Crown.

MR JUSTICE SAVILLE, giving the judgment of the court, said that, on the authority of *Garlick (1958) 42 Cr App R 141* and *R v Miller (Simon) (1977) 1 WLR* 1129, a hire-purchase agreement in ordinary terms could not properly be treated as a credit facility.

On making such a hire-purchase agreement the finance company did not give any credit to the hirer. It hired out the goods to the hirer, who usually had options either to purchase or to return the goods, or to terminate the agreement at any time.

The indictment particulars included the words "credit facilities to assist in the purchase of a car". They were not supported by any evidence at the hearing. No application to amend the indictment was made. It was conceded that, if that was the correct analysis, as their Lordships so held - then the indictment was bad and the conviction could not stand.

Their Lordships rejected the suggestion that a hire-purchase agreement could not amount to the obtaining of services. In *R v Hall* (unreported July 15, 1982, CA) the court held that a mortgage advance could not be described as a service. A hire-purchase agreement was not indistinguishable.

The hire-purchasing of a vehicle on ordinary terms could be regarded as the conferring of some benefit by doing some act, or causing or permitting an act to be done, on the understanding that the benefit had been or would be paid for, that being the definition of services in section 1(2) of the Theft Act 1978.

The finance company conferred a benefit by delivering possession of the vehicle to the hirer - or causing or permitting the garage to do so - on the understanding that the hirer had or would pay a deposit and subsequent instalments.

As to the evidence of attempt there was no evidence of an attempt to commit the crime alleged within the meaning of section 1(1) of the Criminal Attempts Act 1981. At most all that the appellant had done actually was to attempt to ascertain whether or not his neighbour was creditworthy in the sense of being acceptable to the finance company as a prospective hire-purchaser.

It was not suggested that a favourable reply from the finance company could have constituted the obtaining of services within the meaning of the Theft Act, if only because there was no question of

Latest wills

Other estates include (net, before tax paid):
Cable, Mr John Derrick Maurice, of North Dyfed, £640,390
Forbes, Mr John Henry, of Sutton, Surrey, solicitor, £425,781
Langerman, Mr Nathan, of Hackney, London, and of Belmont, Norfolk, £284,439
McPhill, Mr Robert Thomas Mitchell, of Tadworth, Surrey, chartered accountant, £295,698
Morley, Mr Reginald James, of Newmarket, £358,863

Patricia Belle Lacey, of Dorking, underwriting member of Lloyds, left estate valued of £1,363,030 net. She left £200,000, or 25% of her residuary estate, whichever the less, equally between the RNL and the Cheshire Foundation.
Gladys Annie Blyth, of Southsea, left £82,528 net. She left all of her estate equally between the Arthritis and Rheumatism Council and British Heart Foundation.

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New 12p stamps for Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland which will be on sale from today. The emerald green stamps show (from left) the Scottish Lion, the Hand of Ulster, and the Welsh Dragon.

COMPUTER HORIZONS

Telecom: The watchdog is barking

Unfair cross-subsidization and competition in the computer and telecommunications sector became a key issue last week when government industrial advisers and the telephone industry watchdog, OfTel, disclosed their plans to curb the abuses.

Cross-subsidization, where the main commercial activity of a company is used to fund a secondary and less profitable activity, is an issue which OfTel has long been warned about. Last week, however, it disclosed that it was watching British Telecom and was making plans to ensure that the corporation was not able to cross-subsidize the new services it is about to launch.

The new attitude of OfTel was inspired by the Government's decision to relax the licensing arrangements for value added networks, allowing a blanket licence to a range of categories which will include data-management services. The new proposals were enhancements of a much criticized document published in July.

It was the first major issue to be looked at by OfTel. It recommended that British Telecom should be prevented from making the alliance. The Government agreed and the union was stopped. It did, however, inspire government advisers to look at data management networks and consider some method of relaxing the constraints.

Last week's paper was a relaxation. It not only made it easier for the operator of such data networks to obtain approval - a class licence embracing all these networks should be available from August and is meant to cover a period of 12 years - but sought to protect the weak embryonic companies.

The Government expects an avalanche of applications for computer services. About 180 operators in the UK now offer a whole range of value added services, from electronic mail to telephone answering systems. These services total about 650. Data management services are expected to increase that total. But there are problems on how to

devise a mechanism guaranteeing fair competition. The Government proposal will:

- offer a single class of licence for all except post and telecommunications operators to cover new services;
reduce the existing distinctions between what can be done by these telecommunications operators and those wanting to offer the data VANS;
liberalize the basic conveyancing services - transmission and carriage of data, except by voice and telex;
create a procedure and mechanism to ensure that each operator had the same fair chance to offer such computer services.

Certain companies - and the proposals suggest those with £50 million turnover overall or £1 million annually from data services - will need to justify with OfTel their pricing policy. They will be severely constrained in their activities and will not be allowed to offer these computer data services cheaply to customers as an inducement for them to buy the group's main items of business.

THE WEEK

By Bill Johnstone Technology Correspondent

proposal that IBM and British Telecom should join forces to offer a data management network. The proposed partnership provoked a lot of bitterness in the computer industry. Many argued that the dominant position of the two groups would make it virtually impossible for others to compete. The critics were also unhappy that the technical standards for intercommunication of computers would be that of IBM.

PCs set for a comeback in 1986

By Geoff Wheelwright

After the blackest year since the personal computer business began, new products are on the horizon from Apple, Acorn, Sanyo and there are rumours launched from IBM, Atari and Amstrad.

But many of these plans involve relatively safe redesigns of existing computers - evolutionary, rather than revolutionary, products which, say their manufacturers, offer an "upgrade path" in existing computer users.

On January 16 Apple will announce the Mac Plus computer - ostensibly the result of a running battle between Apple's founder, and now ex-chairman, Steve Jobs, and the marketing man he brought in, John Sculley, now head man at Apple.

The existing Macintosh computer - introduced two years ago - could not be expanded easily and did not conform to many existing computer hardware standards, notably those set down by IBM. It was a popular design that many manufacturers copied, but not many business computer users bought it.

The new machine is more a product of Sculley's market-orientation and is expected to feature more computer memory (RAM), operate faster and be easier to add things to - as well as operating much more happily beside machines built by IBM. If the Mac redesign is a success, it will complete what has been quite a dramatic turn-around by Apple - which started 1985 in serious difficulties and ended the year back in profit despite sales.

But Apple is not as desperate as the British Acorn Computers for such a reversal of trends. The Cambridge-based maker of home and educational computers, had to be financed twice by the Italian Olivetti firm last year. Acorn will announce today a further development of the BBC micro-computer which it hopes will staunch speculation that the BBC might award its computer contract elsewhere and prolong the life of the technically inferior machine which has suffered heavy criticism recently, and a resultant drop in sales, along its high price.

Sony, long a supplier of popular components to the computer industry, but never a force in the manufacture of personal computers, will announce today its plans to enter the UK market with a mobile computer. Sony's own 3.5 inch computer disc drive will be open in the compact machine, although it is unclear how the company expects to market it in an area that has never shown great sales.

The industry rumour mill also suggests that IBM may be finally willing to release its long-awaited Clamshell portable computer - thus giving "Big Blue's" stamp of approval to the market to lapel computers. Whenever IBM does release its Clamshell it will be keen to avoid the kind of problems it had last year when its "transportable" computer fared very badly against the best-selling Compaq portable - and IBM was for once driven firmly into second place.

IBM gets left behind on novelty. The outlook for the computer industry looks better in 1986 after a bleak 1985. The US Department of Commerce predicts a 23 per cent improvement in US shipments during 1985. Innovation could be a real selling point.

Sales of Apple Computer's Macintosh, always praised for its cleverness but relatively unsuccessful commercially so far, are picking up, dealers report. It is too early to tell whether a desire for innovation will help Commodore with its new Amiga personal computer.

Commodore faces a difficult time in the first half of 1986, despite the obvious technical merits of Amiga and it announced last week that it will stop manufacturing in Britain.

But innovation helped Digital Equipment and Hewlett-Packard beat IBM in the annual survey of the top US companies by Fortune magazine. Most of the chief executives who responded to the survey say that both companies beat IBM on "innovativeness". And Hewlett-Packard even beat it on product quality.

But that will probably only sting IBM's pride. It will not hurt the giant, IBM can take solace from being rated as the highest scorer overall in the highest headings of the survey. It also came top in five out of the eight categories, including the quality of its management and its financial soundness. The 1985 survey ranked the company's fourth year at the top. But for innovation, it dropped from 31st to 78th place.

Among the losers in the survey were Wang Laboratories, the office automation specialist, and the troubled Control Data.

Look, no hands on this keyboard

A new "hands-free" method of operating a keyboard has been developed that could help severely disabled people to work with computers. Based on an American device, the view control system, the method has a headset which translates head movements into cursor movements using ultrasonic technology to measure subtle changes in the rotation and angle of the head.



The potential for using the unit to help the disabled was spotted by Roy Stringer, managing director of a Liverpool computer dealer, Bit 32, who had come to know the problems of the handicapped after a relative was disabled in a car crash. The key to the system is a program that displays a keyboard on the screen of an Apple Macintosh.

Previous devices to enable disabled people to operate computers often depended on cumbersome mechanical links to a computer keyboard.

I suppose you'll be saying next it can make the test as well

1985. CTNE said sales were forecast at 60 billion pesetas (\$385 million) that year, with exports earning about a quarter of revenue.

Babbage tribute. The Institution of Electrical Engineers must win the 1986 award for future planning. It is already organizing a series of events to celebrate the bicentenary of the birth of Charles Babbage, the 19th-century originator of the principles of modern computing. Due to take place in 1991 an international conference. Computing in the 21st Century, is one item, as is a Christmas 1991 holiday lecture for young people on topical aspects of information technology.

Security workshop. The City of London Polytechnic is to host a four-day workshop on computer security from February 3-6 with the International Association for Computer Systems Security. It will be presented by Robert Wilk, an expert on computer fraud prevention and will include special sessions where participants from the same business area can discuss security aspects. Details on the workshop, which costs \$825 (£570), from 01-283 1030, extension 372.

UK events. Amstrad Computer Show, Novotel, Hammersmith, London W6, January 11-12 (061-456 8383) Which Computer? Show, National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham, January 14-17 (01-891 8471) Videotext User Show, Barbican Centre, London, January 29-31 (01-506 1161) Cadpan 86, Novotel, Hammersmith, London W6, February 25-27, (01-506 8618) Dexpo Europe 86, Olympia 2, London, March 4-6 (01-403 1473) Atari Computer Show, Novotel, Hammersmith, London W6 (061-456 8383) Info 86, Olympia, London, March 24-27, (01-647 1001)

Overseas. Cebit 86, Hannover Fair Complex, West Germany, March 12-19

COMPUTER BRIEFING

Rental coup

The advent of Amstrad's successful 2458 word processor has opened up the possibility of renting office computers and systems for about £12 a week.

A financial software house, Sagesoft, is piloting a scheme in South East England that provides an Amstrad 2458 with printer and word processor as well as a business software package including bookkeeping, payroll, accounts and database programs. The price is £12.36 a week and the minimum rental period is two years, including a day's training and maintenance. It is available through some computer dealers among them the Computerland chain, and by mail order. Further information from 091-284 7077.

New connections

The Spanish telephone company CTNE and Japanese electronics firm Fujitsu are forming a joint venture to make medium-sized office computers and electronic data processing equipment in Spain. Under an agreement between the firms, Fujitsu will take a 60 per cent stake in the new company while CTNE, which is partly state-owned, will hold the remaining 40 per cent. CTNE announced last June an ambitious drive for expansion in international markets, to be partly funded by share flotations on the London, Frankfurt, Paris and Tokyo stock markets.

The new company called Fujitsu Espana, will start operating in

Why software should read like Balzac

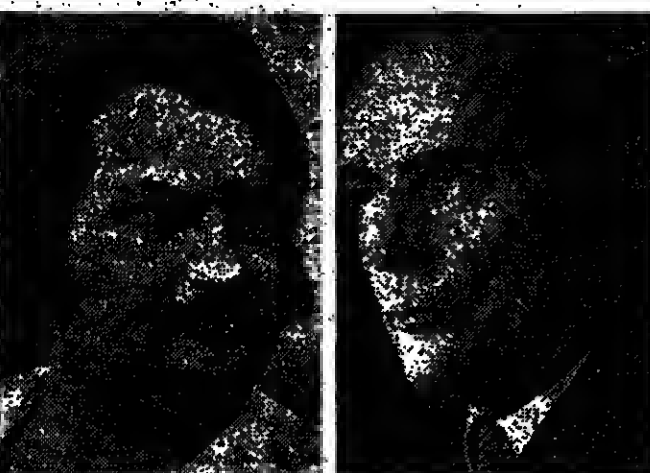
By Richard Sarson

In a speech by President Mitterrand last month to the Académie française, to mark the 350th anniversary of the protector of the French language, he asked: "Must we translate into English all the commands we give machines?" He sees the rule of English in computer science as a long-term threat to the French language.

Although the British and the Americans design to translate the technical manuals into French, and the other major languages, and sometimes even allow the software to respond in French, the commands given by the user to the machine remain solidly in English.

This is because any change of word can create a chain reaction of further changes to the program. In one program, for example, the user gives commands by pressing the initial letter of the words. In the English version "window" had to be translated, but not as "Fenêtre" because the F had been taken up by another command "Format". So the translator chose "Hublot" which means "port-hole".

Another problem is that French words tend to be longer than English. This creates difficulties on screens, where space is tight. Often translators have to redesign whole screens, because French takes up 25 per cent more space. Programs which sort information have to be rewritten so



Balzac and Mitterrand: Adieu to Le Software

that words with accents come in the right order, and French keyboards are not the familiar qwerty layout, but azerty.

Software has not only to be translated, but "culturalized". The main exercise in the English tutorial manual for one command "Format" is the first chapter of Genesis. For Catholic France, this was unacceptable, and was replaced by an extract of Exupéry's Le Petit Prince.

Psion Ltd, the software house which wrote the Xchange suite of programs for the Sinclair QL and ICL One Per Desk, decided, when it started marketing in France, that to be successful, its software would have to feel "truly native", and its manuals

Rambo punches his way into the No 1 slot

By Matthew May

Home computer owners are in for a violent new year, judging by the latest software chart released by Gallup covering the sales of home computer programs in the run up to Christmas.

Four of the top six sellers fall into the fast expanding new category of combat games where the beating up and killing of humans replaces the once popular annihilation of alien spaceships.

The two top selling games, Rambo and Command, have heavily outsold the rest of the top 10 programs. But with the exception of the heavily advertised Rambo, the "official" computer game of the box-office No 1 smash hit, the belief by some software firms that the licensing of characters from film, television and books would provide the road to high sales has been proved wrong.

Despite a whole host of computer spin-offs ranging from the "game" of the horror film Friday 13th to the computer version of the soap opera Dallas, few made it even into the top 100. It is only to sport that character licensing seems to have done the trick with Steve Davis Snooker, Daley Thompson's Super Test and Frank Bruno's Boxing all making it to the top 40. Overall, computer software sales were satisfactory rather than spectacular with sales up two-and-a-half times during the Christmas period on the average for the rest of the year, an increase similar to that for the record industry. Sales of budget software, with a price closer to £2 than the average £9, increased five-fold.

Sales of software by brand of computer were Spectrum, 36 per cent; Commodore 64, 29 per cent; Amstrad, 9 per cent; Commodore 16, 7 1/2 per cent; BBC, 7 1/2 per cent; and the Electron, 4 per cent.

One of the few publicly quoted IBM PC distributors has lured two IBM UK directors to lead its management team, writes David Guest. Micro Business Systems has appointed Stafford Taylor as group chief executive, and Owen Williams becomes deputy chairman. They will take up their new posts in mid-January.

Clive Richards, the group's chairman, said the appointments were necessary to manage the growth the company anticipates in the next five years.

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Top posts at MBS

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SYSTEMS ANALYST

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Company: Long established major IBM user within the City of London. Position: Systems Analyst responsible for the development of on-line accounting and financial applications. A professional and confident person who can develop and install systems successfully in a business environment. Experience: Upwards of three years experience of important development assignments on any minis or mainframes. A programming background is not essential but a complete awareness of the implications of producing detailed specifications from which programmers can work must be demonstrated. IBM Mainframe experience will be an advantage. General: Working security and a fine opportunity to further your career in an environment consisting of the very latest IBM hardware.

CITY. TO £16,000

REF: TG 445

BUSINESS/SYSTEMS ANALYST - LONDON. TO £19K + ANY HARDWARE BANKING BENEFITS

Company: Leading International Bank with Financial interests and activities throughout the world developing IBM based financial systems. Position: Business or Systems Analyst to design and develop banking systems from concept to implementation. Employee user liaison as you will be working in the branch handling system design. Experience: You will have strong branch banking experience in an on-line database environment. Three years' on minis/mainframes and proven commercial analysis are required. General: This is a challenging role and it offers the opportunity to enhance your skills on a range of applications. Training will be available as the company expands. IBM 3082/3086, under MVS and VM, CICS, DL1 and Cobol are employed extensively. High Technology solutions are being introduced to support money market, foreign exchange and securities trading activities. Benefits include mortgage subsidy, personal loans, non-contributory pension, interest-free season ticket loans, the assurance scheme and generous holiday entitlement.

REF: TM 1268

SYSTEMS SALES

COMP. MANUF.

Company: High profile Mini Computer Manufacturer with a reputation for strong marketing and professional selling. Position: Enthusiastic Sales Executives to sell into vertical markets, particularly the financial area and multi national. Experience: A minimum of four years successful sales experience in D.P. You will be late 20's to early 30's in age, with impeccable personal presentation and a determination to be ahead of the crowd. General: The above average package offered to successful Sales Executives, by this company, is backed by excellent employee benefits and unlimited career potential within an expanding company. A real opportunity for high-fliers.

LONDON. OTE £45-50K

Negotiable basic

REF: YA 882

MICRO TURKEY SYSTEMS SALES EXECUTIVES

Company: Rapidly expanding company with a growing reputation for professionalisation, within the competitive marketplace of Micro Turkeys Sales. Position: Sales executives to sell into vertical markets or geographical territories, to new business and existing corporate clients. Experience: Dynamic individuals with a proven track record of selling business systems, in addition you should be enthusiastic and ambitious with excellent presentation skills. General: This company provides its sales team with excellent technical pre and post sales support, and the chance to work in an exciting and attractive environment. This is an opportunity not to be missed for young sales executives eager to advance their careers.

REF: TY 927

PROGRAMMERS/SNR PROGRAMMERS ANY COBOL

Company: One of the largest and most successful computer services companies - dealing with all hardware groups and commercial business application areas, staffed with competent and dynamic professionals. Position: Programmers and Senior Programmers to work on major projects playing an integral part in a small team working from concept to implementation. Analysis involvement will be limited to experience and the desire to progress. Experience: Programming - 18 mths-2 yrs Cobol experience, gained on mainframe equipment. Preference will be given to candidates with I.C. or IBM background. However, any machine experience will be carefully considered. Sr. Prog. - 3 yrs plus with the emphasis being favour on I.C. & IBM experience. General: These opportunities must be carefully considered by candidates with hardware/application experience limited to one or two users, as in the past this type of person has benefited considerably. Work includes involvement on both client site and in house, and because of the variety of hardware employed and the scope of applications, can lead to fast promotion, higher salaries and a certain prospectus future.

C. LONDON. £8-15K

REF: TP 220

SOFTWARE CONSULTANTS

Company: Well established manufacturer of high resolution computer graphics equipment with offices in the UK and USA. Position: A variety of posts available with the emphasis being on the candidates ability to work independently, solve complex problems, work through virtually all stages from problem definition through to implementation. Occasional travel will be involved in the UK and overseas. Experience: Previous work experience is essential. Candidates with upwards of 18 months Fortran/Pascal OK + INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL experience in the manufacture of high resolution computer graphics equipment are preferred. A degree in mathematics, physics, computer science, geography or a science related subject is mandatory. Preference will be given to applicants with DEC experience, however other machines will be seriously considered. General: Extremely interesting positions within a progressive environment offering excellent scope for advancement both in terms of experience to be gained, and for career advancement. Salaries are dependent on experience.

CAMBS. £8-14K

REF: TX 686

For a confidential discussion about these and many other vacancies, please telephone one of our consultants. We are also specialists in assisting British nationals working overseas and wishing to return to the UK.

6th Floor, Empire House, 175 Piccadilly, London W1Z 9DB Telephone: 01-409 2844, 01-439 8302 (24 hours).

Evening numbers until 10 p.m. - 0990 25639 0377-22531

EXCELLENT APPOINTMENTS IN COMPUTING, SALES AND MARKETING

SALES EXECUTIVES NETWORKING SYSTEMS

This major and highly successful subsidiary of a multi-national company is recruiting experienced Sales Executives to sell its computer networking systems and services a major role in planned expansion within the multi-national market. The main requirements are in the areas of Dealer, Government and Commercial Sales. The successful applicants will have a strong technical base and possess a proven track record not necessarily gained in selling the above systems. In return the company offers an extremely attractive package and a commitment to a policy of steady expansion with the obvious implications for career progression and financial reward.

LONDON & CENTRAL ENGLAND

£50,000 OTE GUARANTEE PENSION BUPA LUXURY SALOON

REF: TS 12882

SYSTEMS CONSULTANTS

Our clients are some of the leading management consultancies and at present have several vacancies in London. The successful applicants will be involved in client liaison, fact finding, analysis and making recommendations to senior management. Applications will be in the financial, commercial and industrial sectors. Suitable applicants will be graduates aged between late twenties and mid thirties. These positions offer the opportunity for self-motivated professionals to accelerate their career progression. Our clients offer excellent benefits packages including company car, generous expenses, private medical insurance and a pension scheme.

LONDON

TO £30,000 + COMPANY CAR

REF: TH 12882

COBOL PROGRAMMERS

This established company engaged in the financial sector is currently looking for ambitious COBOL Programmers. Candidates should have a minimum of eighteen months' programming experience. They will be suitably qualified in development and support and need to be in analytical and design. Applicants should be determined professionals in their early twenties and have respectable academic qualifications. The company offers a superior benefits package including a subsidised mortgage scheme, a subsidised restaurant and a pension scheme.

LONDON

TO £12,000 + GENEROUS BONUS + SUBSIDISED MORTGAGE

REF: TH 12814

TECHNICAL CONSULTANTS

This leading international professional consulting and accounting firm currently has excellent career prospects for Management Consultants experienced in Communications. Involved in a vast range of areas, clients range from oil and gas, banks, industrial and commercial enterprises. Successful applicants will be steady working alone on assignments with a minimum of supervisory. You will be involved in fact finding, analysis and making recommendations, the management of time to budget and the development of technical support as required. Assignments range from two days in duration to two years. Candidates should have skills in any of the following: Data Networking, Communications Architecture, Telex, Switching, Communications Simulation and Office Systems, with previous experience in a technical role for a large car or a major computer or communications supplier. A degree, business awareness and good interpersonal skills are regarded with an excellent salary, generous benefits, company car and the opportunity to gain recognition and advancement based on results.

CITY

TO £25K + CAR

REF: TD 11416

ANALYSTS

This large organisation is seeking to expand their already substantial department and they are looking for several Analysts with sound commercial experience and a knowledge of I.C. minis/mainframes. Applicants with financial packages, as well as other more diverse applications. The successful candidates will be working on a variety of relevant experience. The organisation offers good career prospects and benefits include a pension scheme and 35 hour week on flex-time.

LONDON

TO £25,000

REF: TS 622

PROJECT LEADER FOR INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL

A well established and successful international software consultancy requires a Project Leader with either WANG, BURROUGHS or IBM experience (however, other machines will be considered). The successful candidate will have at least three years' proven team leader and project manager experience and will preferably come from a financial institution. Travel overseas to work on client sites is a necessity and a flexible approach to work is essential. The salary and benefits are excellent and include an overseas allowance, pension and income protection scheme, four weeks holiday and a pension package.

TO £25,000

REF: TS 12814

DATAPOWER
COMPUTER EMPLOYMENT LTD

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BUSINESS PEOPLE IN THE PEOPLE BUSINESS

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24hrs (10 lines)
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THE TIMES Portfolio

From your Portfolio card check your eight share price movements. Add them up to give you your overall total. Check this against the daily dividend figure published on this page.

If it matches you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money stand. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card.

Table with columns: No., Company, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E. Lists various companies like Eurochem, Unilever, Shell, etc.

Weekly Dividend table with columns: MON, TUE, WED, THU, FRI, SAT, Weekly Total.

BRITISH FUNDS table with columns: High, Low, Stock, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E.

SHORTS (Under Five Years) table with columns: No., Company, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E.

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS table with columns: No., Company, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E.

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS table with columns: No., Company, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E.

UNDATED table with columns: No., Company, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E.

INDEX-LINKED table with columns: No., Company, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E.

BREWERIES table with columns: No., Company, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E.

BANKS DISCOUNT HP table with columns: No., Company, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E.

ELECTRICALS table with columns: No., Company, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E.

DRAPERY AND STORES table with columns: No., Company, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E.

CINEMAS AND TV table with columns: No., Company, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E.

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS table with columns: No., Company, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E.

INDUSTRIALS A-D table with columns: No., Company, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E.

INDUSTRIALS E-K table with columns: No., Company, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E.

INDUSTRIALS L-R table with columns: No., Company, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E.

INDUSTRIALS S-Z table with columns: No., Company, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E.

INDUSTRIALS OR table with columns: No., Company, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E.

INDUSTRIALS OVERSEAS TRADERS table with columns: No., Company, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E.

INDUSTRIALS PAPER, PRINTING, ADVERTISING table with columns: No., Company, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E.

INDUSTRIALS PROPERTY table with columns: No., Company, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E.

INDUSTRIALS SHIPPING table with columns: No., Company, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E.

INDUSTRIALS SHOES AND LEATHER table with columns: No., Company, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E.

INDUSTRIALS TEXTILES table with columns: No., Company, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E.

INDUSTRIALS TOBACCO table with columns: No., Company, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E.

INDUSTRIALS MOTORS AND AIRCRAFT table with columns: No., Company, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E.

INDUSTRIALS NEWSPAPERS AND PUBLISHERS table with columns: No., Company, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E.

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Early gains lost

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Dec 23. Dealings End, Jan 10. Contango Day, Jan 13. Settlement Day, Jan 20. Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

Table with columns: 1985 High, Low, Company, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E.

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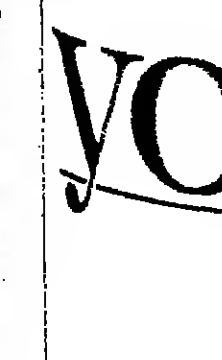
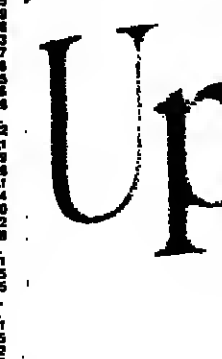
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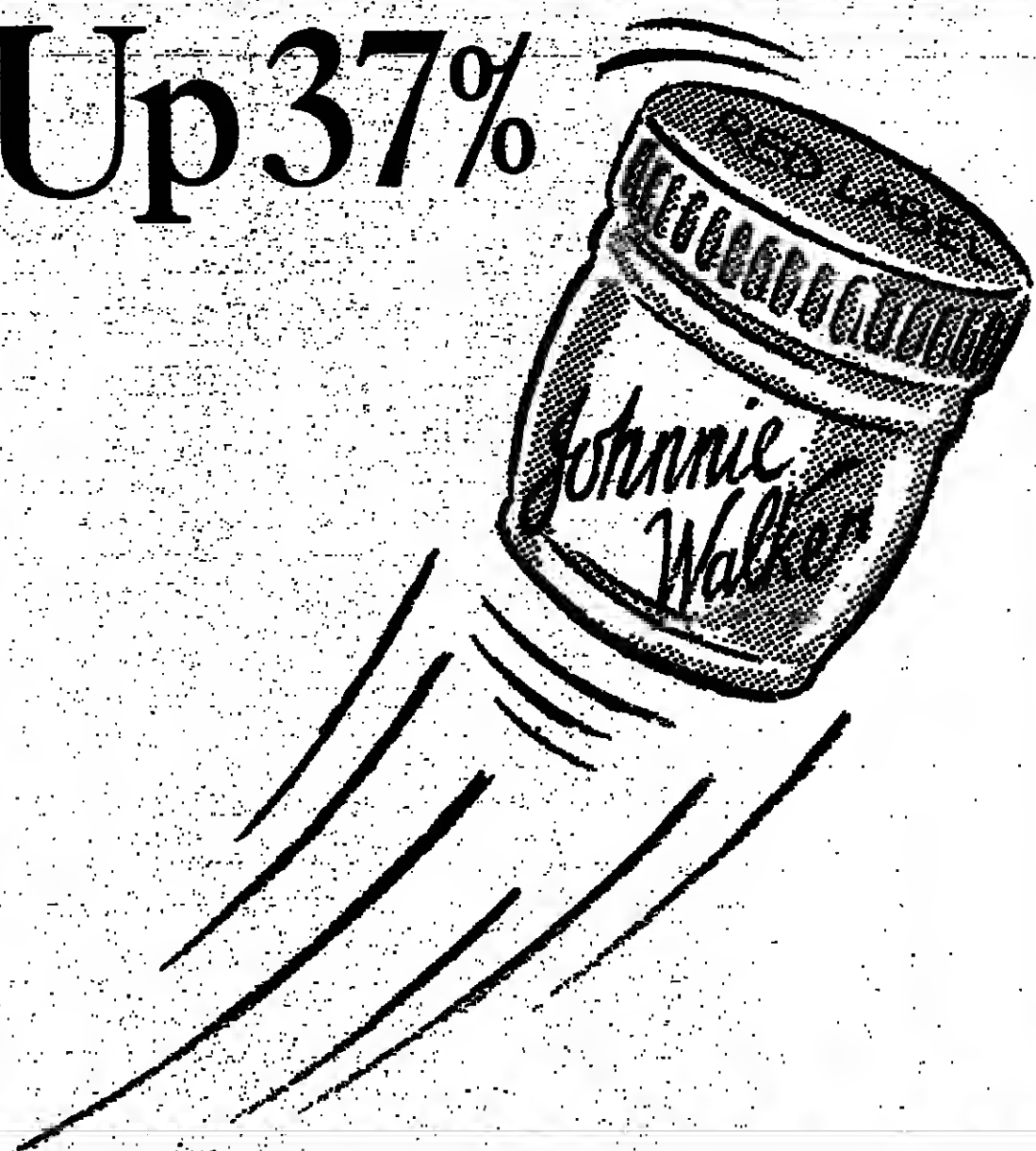
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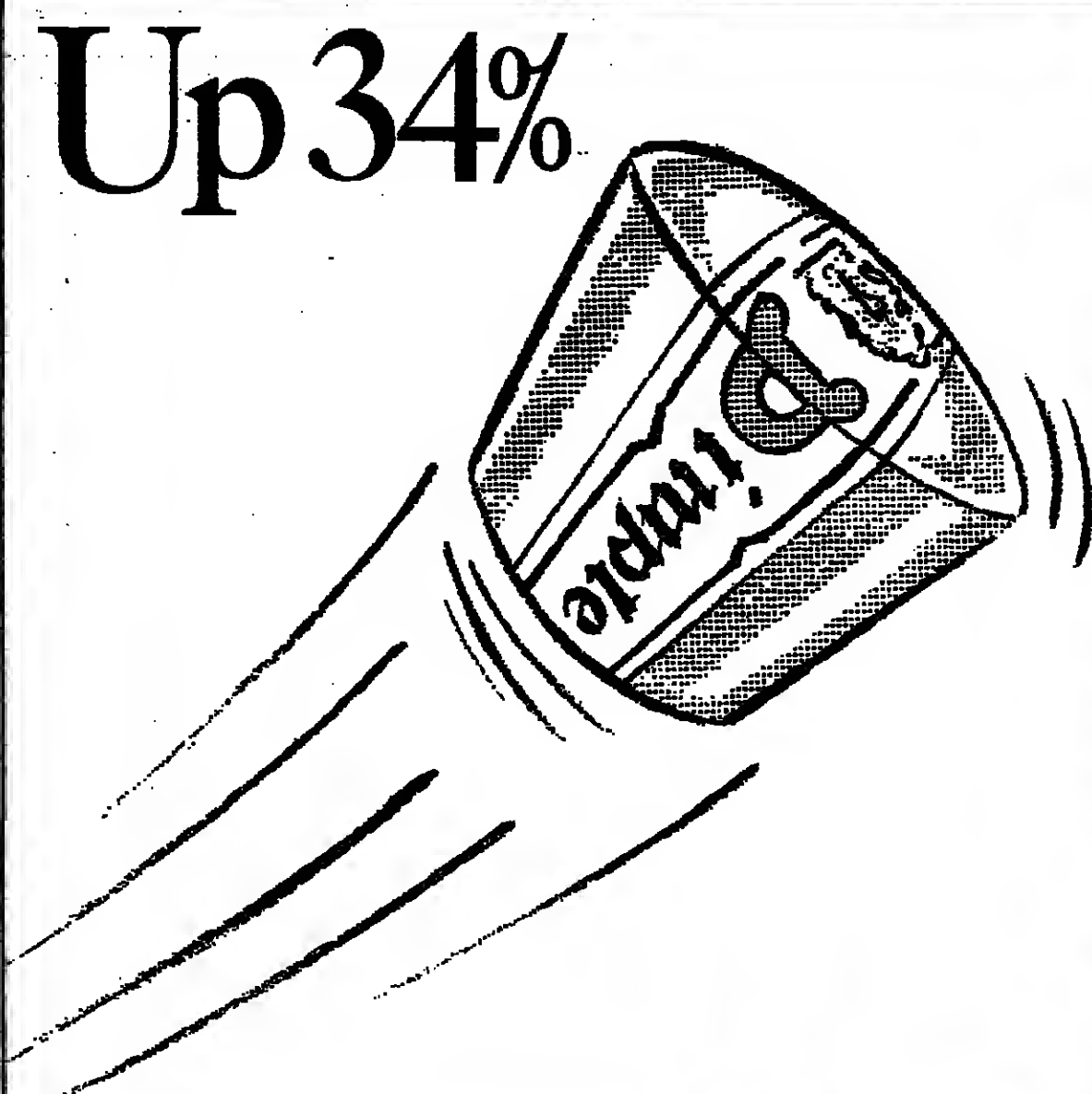
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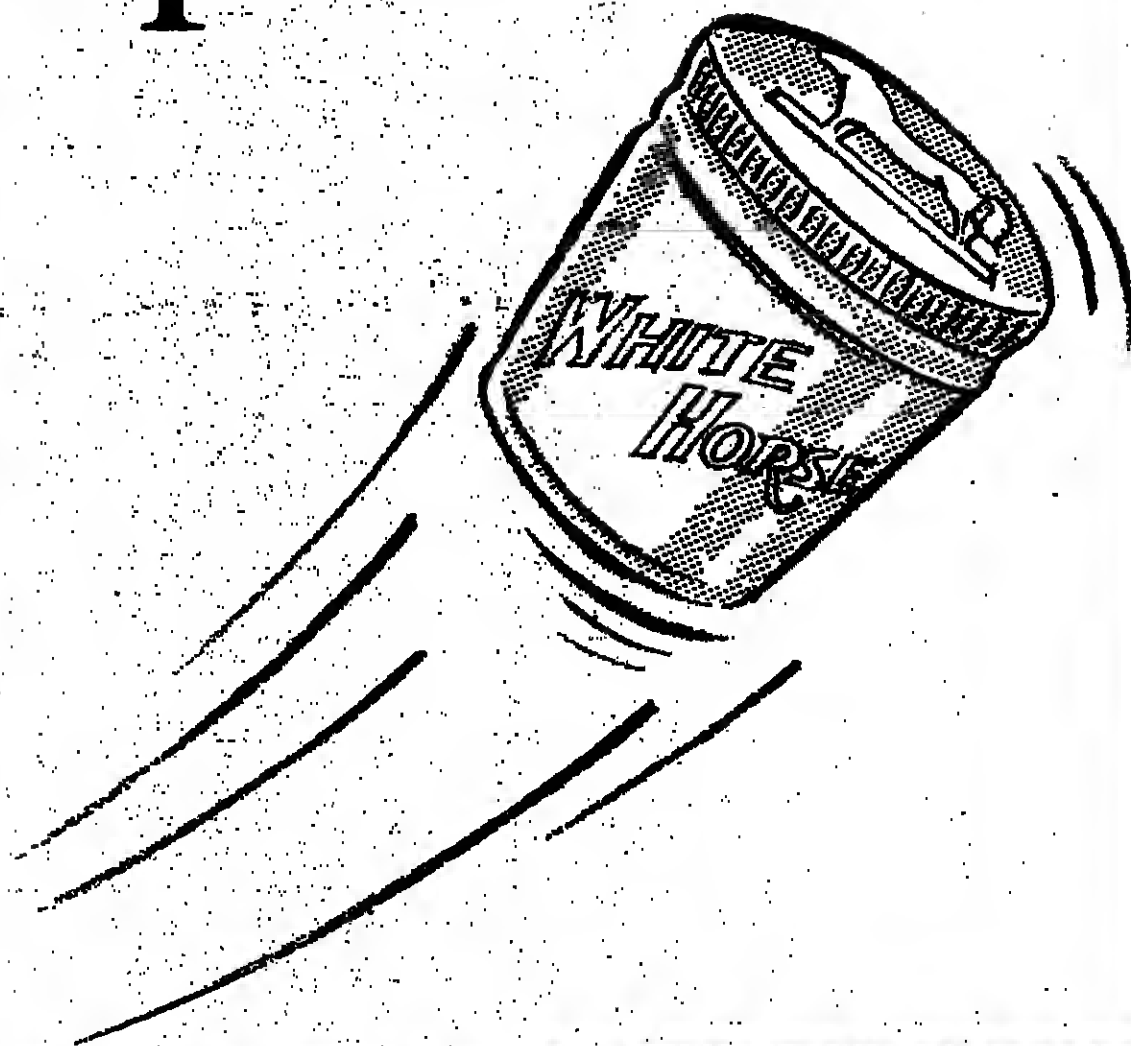
Up 37%



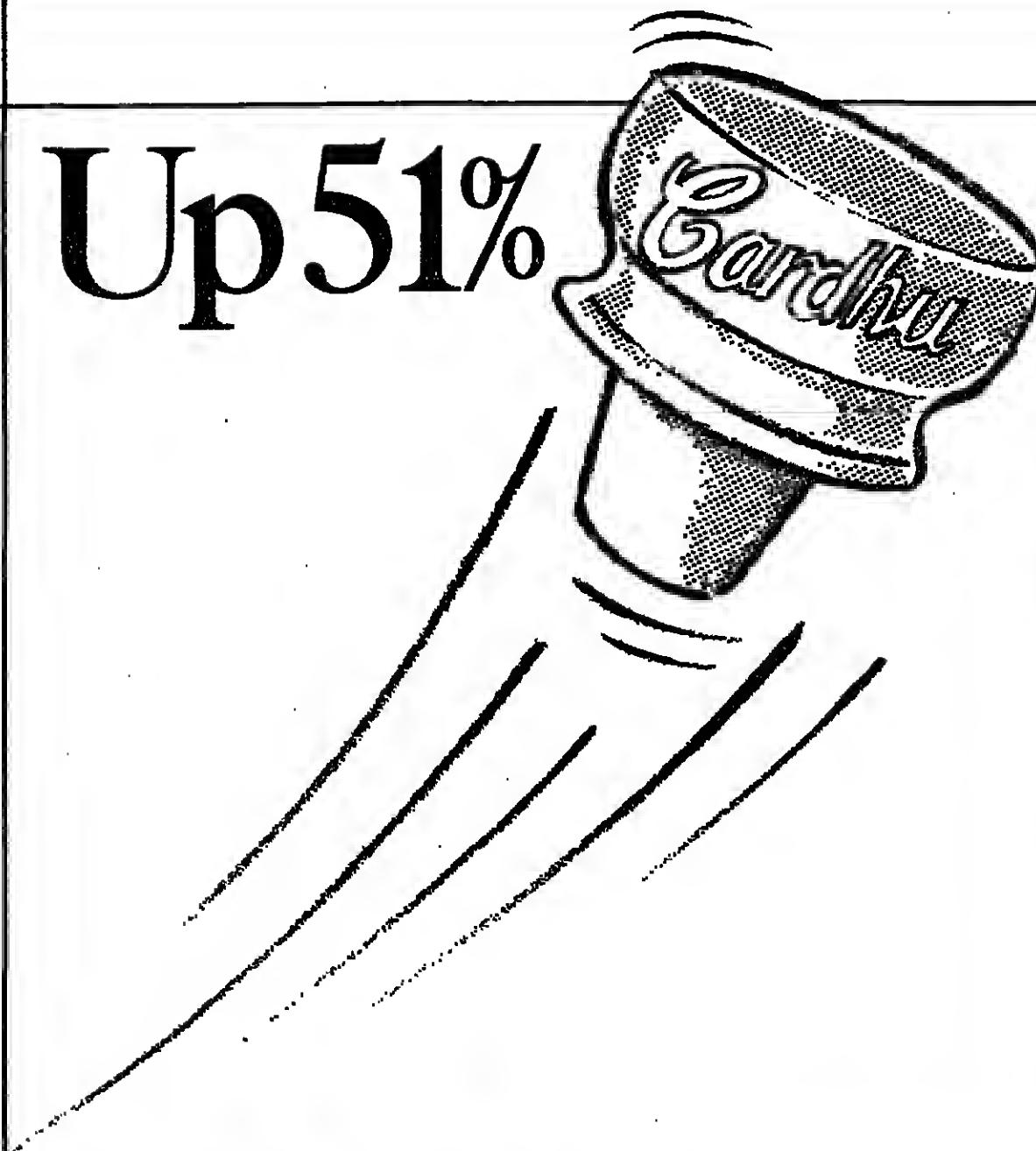
Up 34%



Up 23%



Up 51%



Source: DCL Horse Trade Case Sales statistics April-September 1985 compared to same period previous year

This should scotch
the story
you're spreading, Argyll.

The Distillers Company plc.

This advertisement is published by The Distillers Company plc, whose directors (including those who have delegated detailed supervision of this advertisement) have taken all reasonable care to ensure that the facts stated and opinions expressed herein are fair and accurate. Each of the directors accepts responsibility accordingly.

01-837 0668 LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

SOLICITOR - CONTENTIOUS BUSINESS

The Contentious Business Department handles for The Law Society all issues in the contentious business field, including law and procedure reform, costs and the profession's remuneration. The Department provides information and advice to the profession and promotes the policies of the many committees it services.

A vacancy exists for a Solicitor of two or more years' experience who can join a committed team. We are looking for a lively advocate with a knowledge of Legal Aid and although the post-holder will help service particularly the Society's Criminal Law Committee and Child Care Law Working Party, we would welcome candidates who also have experience of tribunal work, and an imaginative approach to legal services issues.

The successful candidate can expect to contribute to The Law Society's work on numerous projects, including relevant legislation and government

consultations. He or she will need to communicate effectively with M.P.s, senior government officials, the media, the profession and the public, will have some experience of writing for publication and must be able to work on their own initiative.

Compensating salary depending on length of experience since admission, ranges from £12,869 p.a. with 2 years to £16,119 p.a. for 7+ years experience (subject to review in July). Excellent conditions include 23 days annual leave, increasing with service, a contributory Superannuation Scheme, interest free season ticket loan and subsidised Staff Luncheon Room.

Send your C.V. including current responsibilities and salary details in confidence to Miss J W Collinson, Personnel and Training Manager, The Law Society, 113 Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1PL. Closing date 22nd January 1986.

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In return we are offering a very attractive salary, excellent prospects and assistance with relocation expenses if appropriate.

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WRAGGE & CO.

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If you are contemplating a move for the New Year, why not contact us? Our legally qualified consultants will be happy to provide advice on the options available in the market and, if you wish, introduce you to the most suitable of our clients.

If you would like an informal career discussion, please telephone Simon Anderson, Hurv Frederickson or Laurence Simons on 01-831 2000 (01-802 8730 evenings/weekends) or write to The Legal Division, Michael Page Partnership (UK), 39-41 Parker Street, London WC2B 5LH. Strictest confidentiality assured.



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...with more time for family, financial security and greater enjoyment

...without the overhead of city prices and season tickets.

Ward Bowie is a long established firm of solicitors with 23 Partners and five offices, urgently seeking to fill five important vacancies.

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The successful applicant will preferably have a minimum of 2/3 years' experience, will be able to demonstrate a sound practical approach to commercial developments, acquisitions and disposals together with other related property work.

Salary: up to £20,000 depending on age and experience.

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We need an enthusiastic and self-motivated person with 2/3 years' experience in handling all types of domestic conveyancing from the small to the very large. The successful applicant would be directly responsible to one of our Senior Partners.

Salary: up to £13,000 depending on age and experience.

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We seek an assistant to the Partner responsible for the firm's matrimonial and associated work, including injunctions, property transfer and allied court work. The successful applicant can be a recently qualified solicitor wishing to specialise in this field and willing to undertake advocacy in the Magistrates and County Courts.

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This is an unusual opportunity for a solicitor - preferably with some experience since admission - wishing to specialise in tax law. The successful applicant will be instrumental in expanding the Tax Department whilst providing the firm's existing clients with financial advice and assistance including private tax returns.

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We need legal executives for domestic conveyancing in expanding new department. Applicants should be prepared to deal with straight-forward conveyancing. He or she must have initiative and self reliance, dealing directly with clients if required. Top salaries will be paid for the successful applicants who will form part of a team working in ancillary offices specifically acquired for this department.

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We are a progressive and busy firm offering excellent Partnership opportunities to those who wish to prove their abilities in this attractive and accessible provincial area.

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for major International Company

£18-20,000 plus car

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We are looking for a solicitor with up to three years post qualification experience in a major company or City firm. The successful candidate will be a member of a head office legal team of four solicitors whose responsibility it is to advise the Board on strategic issues affecting the Group and manage all head office legal transactions. This work entails a wide range of matters and may include major acquisitions and disposals, and equity and capital market financings as well as general corporate and commercial matters.

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Please write with full C.V., or telephone for an application form to: Richard Dubeck, Personnel Manager, B.A.T. Industries plc., Windsor House, 50 Victoria Street, London, SW1H 0NL. Tel: 01-222 7979 Ext. 2044.

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Our client is a medium sized and highly successful City firm. This long-established firm is very much committed to expansion and its continuing acquisition and development of new clients has generated the need for a number of further assistants.

Company/Commercial

The work handled by this department consists of a range of first rate City company/commercial matters with particular emphasis on corporate finance. The requirement is for several assistants from 1 to 5 years admitted, ideally - though not necessarily - with some corporate finance experience.

Corporate Tax

This is a recently established department whose success is reflected in its present need for two new assistants. Candidates should have excellent academic qualifications and up to 2 years' experience in either corporate tax or company/commercial work, preferably gained with a leading City firm.

This is a young and dynamic organisation which recognises the importance of paying top rate salaries to attract high calibre lawyers.

Career prospects are excellent for those with the personality and intellect to succeed in a front-line role. For further information, please telephone Simon Anderson on 01-831 2000 (01-802 8730 evenings and weekends), or write to him at The Legal Division, Michael Page Partnership (UK), 39/41, Parker Street, London WC2B 5LH.



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MIDDLETON POTTS & CO offer the opportunity to energetic young lawyers of doing a wide variety of stimulating City work in the environment of a rapidly expanding international practice. Candidates should have the personality and ability to acquire partnership status within a comparatively short time and have experience in one or more of the following areas of law within our three main departments:

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— general commercial conveyancing in substantial and complex transactions, including development and funding work, security documentation and planning law;

Commercial Litigation

— High Court litigation and arbitration in substantial cases involving shipping, insurance, commodities, banking, and/or general company and commercial law.

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A Solicitor with immediate partnership qualities to help develop our increasingly heavy commercial litigation practice.

A newly qualified solicitor is also required for our internationally based litigation department. For both litigation positions proficiency in German would be an advantage but is not essential.

Insolvency

A Solicitor with immediate partnership qualities, specialising in insolvency work.

We are a long-established central London practice and we are engaged in a policy of expansion. We offer excellent career prospects as well as the opportunity to work in an energetic but friendly environment. Fully competitive salaries will be paid.

Interested applicants are invited to write, in strict confidence, with a full curriculum vitae to:-

Andrew Kaufman
Pritchard Englefield & Tobin
23 Great Castle Street
London W1N 8NQ

Gabriel Duffy Consultancy

MAJOR LONDON FIRMS £14,000-£20,000
Our clients are recruiting: (1) Commercial Lawyer with 1-2 yrs PQE. Experience in dealing with intellectual property and technology matters essential; (2) Pensions Lawyer for Corporate Tax Department to provide specialist advice in relation to employee related benefits. Previous experience of share option schemes and pension schemes in relation to takeovers and mergers advantageous; and (3) Corporate Finance Lawyer to work on good quality case-load in Shipping/Aircraft Industries.

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NORFOLK £12,000
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London EC4N 8AL
Telephone 01-623 4295

Assistant Solicitor (Commercial)

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MARRIAGES
CENTON-HARPER, The marriage ...

DEATHS
BAILEY, On Wednesday, January ...

DEATHS
EARLOW, On 5th January, at home ...

DEATHS
MAYHEW, On 5th January, at home ...

DEATHS
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Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Dear and Peter Davalle

BBC 1

- 6.00 Breakfast AM. 6.50 Breakfast-Time with Frank Bough and Mike Smith. 7.00 Weather at 6.55, 7.25, 7.55, 8.25 and 8.55; regional news, weather and traffic at 8.37, 7.27, 7.57 and 8.27; national and international news at 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 8.50; the Tuesday Specials at 8.17; film/quiz at 8.45; and a discussion on "Is TV violence bad for children?" at 9.04.

TV-am

- 6.15 Good Morning Britain - presented by Anne Diamond and Matthew Kelly. News with Gordon Honeycombe at 6.17, 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00; exercises at 6.20; sport at 8.30 and 7.34; regional reports at 7.15; cartoon at 7.24; pop/quiz at 7.54; the best of the Tuesday Specials at 8.17; film/quiz at 8.45; and a discussion on "Is TV violence bad for children?" at 9.04.

ITV/LONDON

- 9.25 Thames news headlines. 9.30 For Schools: tonight - for deaf children. 9.50 Crestures and plants that live in insects. 10.09 How to spring clean a house. 10.26 German conversation. 10.48 What is politics? 11.10 Dinosaurs and their environment. 11.27 Home for humans, animals and plants. 11.44 Part one of the historical drama, The Sea Green Man, by Peter Carter.

BBC 2

- 9.00 Caeffs. 9.20 Daytime on Two: For moderately mentally handicapped young adults. 9.35 Spanish town and village life. 9.52 Maths: tessellations. 10.15 Part one of Richard Carpenter's story, The Boy from Outer Space. 10.38 The life of a Tokyo city family. 11.07 World Darts. 11.29 Science: light, electrons and the atom.

CHANNEL 4

- 2.30 Snooker. The first quarterfinal match of the Mercantile Credit Classic tournament. Introduced by Dickie Davies from the Spectrum Arena, Warrington. 4.30 Countdown. Leslie Preston from Brigwaver challenges yesterday's winner of the anagrams and maths arithmetic competition. 5.00 Bewitched. Darrin's mother-in-law swaps his wife for her identical sister and gets her to behave in a way to annoy David.

Radio 4

- 6.30 Broogs Male. Four string tales in which Sir Digby Spode and the trusty Hubert Carstairs thwart the forces of evil. 6.55 Shipping. 6.55 News Briefing. 6.55 Farming Today. 6.55 Prayer for the Day. 7.00 Today's News. 7.00 News. 7.05 The Archers. 7.20 The Sky's the Limit. William Davis reports from America on real estate in the sky. 8.00 Medicine Now. Geoff Watts reports on the health of medical care. 8.30 The Tuesday Feature: The Gambia. Evelyn Glennie, who is deaf, graduated from the Royal Academy of Music and has received the Queen's Commendation for All-Round Excellence. Anthony Hopkins traces the progress of the remarkable young woman. 9.00 In Touch. News, views and interviews with people with a visual handicap. 9.30 Preaching Place. A series of six combative talks by Howard Goodal (D. Bernard Baboons. 9.45 Kaleidoscope. Arts magazine, edited by Paul Vaughan. Includes comment on Richard Attenborough's new film A Chorus Line; the Radio 2 production of Strindberg's Master and Margarita; and Opera Factory at the Royal Court. 10.15 A Book at Bedtime: Vice Versa by F. Anstey (7). Read by David Davies. 10.29 Weather. 10.30 The World Tonight. 11.00 News and Yours. Consumer advice, with Patti Goldwell. 11.00 My Word! Panel game with Dicky Howson. 11.05 The Book of the Week. 11.15 The Archers. 1.25 Shipping Forecast. 2.00 News; Women's Hour. Includes a report on the way women offenders are treated in our courts. Also part of the Campaign Against Barbara Pym. The reader is Patricia Routledge. 3.00 News: The Afternoon Play. Tanya Rugh Gordon with Cindy Shelley, Neville Jason and Tessa Worsley. Story of a couple who move into a remote country house. 3.15 Listening Early. 2.05 History: Not So Long Ago. 2.25 Contact. 2.30 Pictures in Words. 12.30-1.10am News; Night-Time. Broadcasting: A-Level English - The "Unseen" Christian Paper.

Radio 2

- News on the hours. Headlines 5.30, 6.30, 7.30, 8.30. Sports Desk 1.15pm. 2.02, 3.02, 4.02, 5.02, 6.02, 6.46 (MP) only 9.55. 4.00 Colin Berry; 6.00 Roy Mars; 6.05 Ken Bruce; 10.20 Jimmy Young. Medical questions answered by Dr Mike Smith. 1.20am David Jacobs; 12.00 Anna Ford; 1.30 Music all the Way; 4.00 David Hamilton; 6.00 John Dunn; 6.00 Hubert Gregg says I Call It Style. (Frank Loster). 8.00 BBC Radio 2. 8.55 Sports Desk. 10.00 On the Edge (new series). Tony Peters with a general knowledge quiz. 11.00 Christopher Biggins, Lesley Judd, Johnny Ball and Doc Cox. 10.30 The Names of the Game. Battle of Britain. 11.00 Brian Matthews presents Round Midnight. Stereo from Organ Symphony No 3. BBC-Singer with John Scott and Margaret Phelps (organ). 11.30 Cello and Flute. Loud Blake and Christopher Palmer. Schumann's Adagio and Allegro in A flat. D. 70; Hindemith's Sonata Op 25 No 3; Beethoven's Sonata in D. Op 102, No 2; Bourne-mouth SO (under Bugaj). with Peter Donohoe (piano). Part one. Dvorak's Scherzo. 11.55 Beethoven's Piano Concerto in E flat. Op 11. 1.00 Concert: part two. Shostakovich's Symphony No 15. 1.50 Guitar encores: Leo Wittoszynski plays Casals' 'Tedesco' a traditional diatonic and Hardt's Agave; Folklore Impression No 1. 2.10 New String Trio and an Important Mass: First performance of Gottfried von Einem's String Trio (with Christophorus, Klaus and Beethoven's Mass in D. Op 123 (Vardy). Franca Leubsdorfer, soprano; Choir of St Mark's Cathedral; Camerata Radio SO.) 4.00 Michele Campanella. Piano. Weber's Invitation to the Dance; Sonata No 1 and Fugue; Prelude, Chorus and Fugue. 4.55 News. 5.00 Music Press: Roger Nichols with recorded music. 6.00 Airs de concert: Emma Kirkby (soprano) and Anthony Collins (alto). Works by Guadagnoli, Grand-Rue, Jean-Baptiste Boissel.

Radio 1

- News on the half hours from 6.30am until 8.30pm and at 12 midnight. 6.00 Adrian John. 7.30 Mike Reid. 8.30 Simon Bates. 12.30pm Newsbeat (an Parkin). 1.30 The Parkin Show. 2.30 Newsbeat (an Parkin). 3.30 The Parkin Show. 4.30 Newsbeat (an Parkin). 5.45 Simon Bates. At 8.30 reviews. At 9.00 singles chart. 7.30 Janice Long. 10.00-12.00 John Peel. VHF Radio 1. 2.45-4.00 Newsbeat. At 12.00 Newsbeat. Radio 1. 12.00-4.00am As Radio 2.

WORLD SERVICE

- 6.00 Newsweek. 7.00 News. 7.20 Twenty-Four Hours. 7.30 News. 8.00 News. 8.30 News. 8.55 News. 9.00 News. 9.30 News. 10.00 News. 10.30 News. 11.00 News. 11.30 News. 12.00 News. 12.30 News. 1.00 News. 1.30 News. 2.00 News. 2.30 News. 3.00 News. 3.30 News. 4.00 News. 4.30 News. 5.00 News. 5.30 News. 6.00 News. 6.30 News. 7.00 News. 7.30 News. 8.00 News. 8.30 News. 9.00 News. 9.30 News. 10.00 News. 10.30 News. 11.00 News. 11.30 News. 12.00 News. 12.30 News. 1.00 News. 1.30 News. 2.00 News. 2.30 News. 3.00 News. 3.30 News. 4.00 News. 4.30 News. 5.00 News. 5.30 News. 6.00 News. 6.30 News. 7.00 News. 7.30 News. 8.00 News. 8.30 News. 9.00 News. 9.30 News. 10.00 News. 10.30 News. 11.00 News. 11.30 News. 12.00 News. 12.30 News. 1.00 News. 1.30 News. 2.00 News. 2.30 News. 3.00 News. 3.30 News. 4.00 News. 4.30 News. 5.00 News. 5.30 News. 6.00 News. 6.30 News. 7.00 News. 7.30 News. 8.00 News. 8.30 News. 9.00 News. 9.30 News. 10.00 News. 10.30 News. 11.00 News. 11.30 News. 12.00 News. 12.30 News. 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